The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XI.--NO. 30. WEEKLY EDITION. JUNE 6, 1871.

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The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

M. F. EGAN, Business Manager.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Price 1 cent; 5 cents, delivered by carriers, per week; $3 25 cents for six months; by mail (per year), $10 00.

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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 29, 1874.

Mr. Dawes' Tariff Bill.

Mr. Dawes has more difficulty with his Tariff bill than he had anticipated. Last night he could not keep a quorum, and he was unable to hold the members present well in hand, for they persisted in putting in matter other than that intended by the committee. He has, therefore, not fully determined what course to pursue in the future, but has it in contemplation, if he can get the consent of the Committee on Ways and Means, to fix up such a bill as may be agreed upon, and move to pass it on Monday under a suspension of the rules. He fears that if its consideration in Committee of the Whole is persisted in, that the free list will be too greatly enlarged.

Reduction of the Army.

The bill for the reduction of the army passed the House to-day by the very small majority of 15—119 to 104. There were, no doubt, a large number in the House in favor of the reduction, but the bill contained some very obnoxious features, and hence the opposition. One of the most obnoxious features was the section requiring officers and soldiers to be paid in checks, instead of by cash, as at present. An unsuccessful effort was made to strike this out. General Butler's amendment prohibiting the removal of army headquarters from the Capital, except in time of war, was rejected without a division. This amendment was offered in consequence of the report that the headquarters were to be removed to St. Louis. The opponents of the bill seem confident that it cannot pass the Senate.

The Civil Rights Bill.

Butler, it is alleged, has a very good reason for not pressing his Civil Rights bill, and that is the intimation, said to come from the President, that he would veto it in its present form. He would press it if he could be assured of a two-thirds vote, on the idea that its passage by such a vote might have some effect upon the President's action. The colored people have called upon Judge Hoar to know why he does not press it. They told him that Mr. Sumner left it to him as a sacred legacy, and they ask him to fulfill his duty as executor. Judge Hoar replies that at present there is no hope of success, and bids his colored friends bide their time hopefully.

The Conference Committee

on the Currency bill will meet to-morrow with a view, if possible, of agreeing upon a report to be presented to both Houses on Monday. The impression seems to be that the committee, as now constituted, will not be able to agree. Messrs. Morton and Merrimon, of the Senate committee, are extreme inflationists, and Mr. Sherman is directly the opposite. Of the House committee, Messrs. Farwell and Maynard are moderate Inflationists, while Mr. Clymer is opposed to any change in the financial policy at the present time, unless there can be an absolute guarantee for specie payments. The difficulties in the way can, therefore, be readily perceived.

Report on Arkansas.

Mr. Senor, Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures of the Department of Justice, has prepared their report from the investigation recently conducted by that committee, and will present it on Monday. While entering particularly into affairs in Arkansas, the report will recommend certain changes in the law relating to United States Marshals all over the country, while Arkansas will be seen as an exceptional case, the evidence has shown that the law should more carefully guard the operations of these officers every where.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31, 1874.

Transportation Routes.

Senator Windom will endeavor to-day, up, some time this week, the resolutions reported from the Select Committee on Transportation in favor of new surveys for all the projected lines of water and land internal improvements recommended by the committee. Among those who will urge that the new surveys be made, is Senator Morton. He, however, does not wish to commit himself to either of the projects. The committee think that the favorable recommendation for the new surveys will be favorably acted on by Congress.

Serious Collision in the Potomac.

To prevent possible disarrangement by the jar of railroad cars, all the private state apartments intended for the transit of Vennie expeditions was shipped hence to New York by the United States steamer Gettysburg. The Gettysburg had scarcely left her wharf here yesterday before, with what appears to be the grossest carelessness, she collided with a large steamer, the Lady of the Lake. The shock was of course much greater than the jolting of cars would have been, as at times the distance between here and New York. As a consequence, the scientists are afraid that some of the more delicate instruments have been damaged as to impair seriously their accuracy.

The Conference Committee

on the currency bill, Senators Morton, Sherman and Merrimon, and Representatives Maynard, Farwell and Clymer, had a session of several hours yesterday, but did not complete the consideration of the bill. They agreed that they would say nothing of their action till they shall have completed their report, for which purpose they will meet again at ten o'clock to-morrow. A member of the Ways and Means committee stated this evening that he heard a report that they had agreed upon a thirty-three per cent. retirement clause. On the other hand, another member states that the committee had not reached that clause at the time of adjournment yesterday.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 1, 1874.

Nomination of General Bristow.

The long expected nomination of Secretary Richardson for the vacant position on the bench of the Court of Claims, was sent in by the President this afternoon. Accompanying it, was the nomination of General Bristow for Secretary of the Treasury. The nominations reached the Senate a few minutes past two o'clock, and in an incredibly short time the news had spread all over the capitol and many House members and others came flocking over to the Senate side to be certain of the fact, which had been announced so often that people began to doubt whether it would ever occur. General Bristow, when Solicitor General, created an agreeable impression among those with whom he came in contact. It is known that, as was the case when General Bristow was nominated for Attorney General, the nomination had not been solicited by him in any way. He saw the President to-day, before his attention was sent in, for the first time in months. It is believed that the Finance Committee, to which his nomination was referred, will report it back promptly and unanimously, and that he will be confirmed without opposition. It is thought that, upon his assuming the duties of his position, both Messrs. Bristow and Banfield will leave the Treasury Department. Banfield, the Solicitor of the Treasury resigned to-night, and it is thought that Assistant Treasurer Sawyer will at once follow his example.

Richardson's Nomination.

In regard to the nomination of Mr. Richardson, opinions vary considerably to-night. Mr. Richardson has strong friends, who implicitly believe in his personal ability and integrity, and they will make a strong fight for him. It must be remembered, however, that the Judiciary Committee, before which is his nomination, refused to recommend the confirmation of Mr. Williams as Chief Justice, although he had served in the Senate with most of its members and was personally liked by them. The charges made against Mr. Richardson are much more severe than any of those brought against Judge Williams. It may be looked upon, therefore, as certain that even if the committee should recommend his confirmation it will not be by a unanimous vote, and it is also certain that he will meet with the most strenuous opposition in the Senate. Despite all the indications, however, his friends believe that he will ultimately be confirmed; while those who are not friendly to him insist that he will be rejected or the President be requested to withdraw his nomination.

No Hope for Civil Rights.

Gen. Butler tried his Civil Rights bill on again to-day, but the Democrats were prepared for him. His proposition was to take the Senate bill from the Speaker's table and refer it to the Judiciary Committee, with leave to report at any time. Pending this motion there was a motion made to adjourn, which was not carried because the Democrats only desired to delay the subject until half-past four, when a recess had to be taken by an order of the House made a few days ago. It is believed that this ends any prospect of the passage of the Civil Rights bill for the session.

Tariff Bill Passed.

Mr. Dawes to-day reported an amended tariff bill, and moved its passage under a suspension of the rules. The bill passed—177 to 49. The bill as reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, adopts the amendments made in Committee of the Whole, but also makes some important suggestions with reference to future legislation. The amendments to the Internal Revenue law were generally acceptable to the House, but, unfortunately, a motion to suspend the rules admitted of propositions which were decidedly objectionable. The clause allowing a drawback with reference to the manufactures of tobacco was accepted as a fair proposition and was adopted without a division. The clause relating to the taxation of bonds, &c., received a very large vote, and was finally adopted. But there was one proposition which the House would not agree to, which was the proposition to renew the income tax. Not so much as a vote, by yeas and nays, could be obtained for that proposition.

Elder Cannon's Case.

The House Committee on Elections this morning informally discussed the charges of polygamy against Mr. Cannon, of Utah, and the testimony taken by them on the subject. No vote was reached and no action taken to indicate what the Committee will recommend to the House, it being deemed advisable to await a full meeting of all the members.

MUTINY OF CONVICTS.

Inmates of Missouri Penitentiary in Revolt ---A Company of Armed Citizens Called In---General Amnesty.

ST. LOUIS, June 1.—Specials from Jefferson City, at a late hour to-night, say that a mutiny, which for a long time has threatened, occurred at the penitentiary to-day. During the dinner hour, several convicts simultaneously sprang from their seats at table and, with drawn knives, ordered the five or six guards present to stand still at the peril of their lives, which they did. Mr. Bradbury, one of the officers of the prison, entered the room and was immediately seized and ordered to be seated and remain quiet. Shortly after, Warden Sabree entered and made a speech to the convicts, which quieted them to some extent. They released Bradbury and the guards. The cause of the trouble, as stated by the convicts, was the bad quality of the food furnished them. At the request of Colonel Murphy, President of the Prison Company, a committee of prisoners went with him to the Commissary's quarters, where the quality of the rations was examined. This seemed satisfactory to most of the convicts, but some still insisted that the food was not good, and complaint was then made that the quantity was insufficient for working men. Colonel Murphy assured them that they should have an abundance to eat of good quality. Comparative quiet was then restored, a second committee going in the shop during the afternoon and threats made to burn the prison. It was then determined to force the convicts to return to their cells. At this juncture a company of armed citizens arrived and were marched into the prison, drawn up in line ready to fire on the slightest demonstration of disobedience. This had a quieting effect, even on the most turbulent of the men, and in a few minutes all were behind bars and bolts, a general amnesty having been declared by the officers of the prison.

CADIZ, O.

Decoration Day--The Clark Monument Unveiled and Dedicated--A Visit from Allegheny--Interesting and Significant Exercises.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CADIZ, O., May 30, 1874.

Decoration Day was observed with as much interest as any. In addition to the usual exercises, was the unveiling of a monument to Colonel John B. Clark, late pastor of the U. P. Church, Stockton avenue, Allegheny, a delegation of forty from that place were present, having arrived by special train. The monument is about twenty-five feet in height and bears the following inscription:

Born October 9, 1827, at Cadiz, Ohio.
Died January 13, 1872, in Allegheny, Pa.

On the left-hand side:

OUR PASTOR AND FRIEND,
JOHN B. CLARK.

Erected by his friends of the Second U. P. Church, Allegheny, Pa., May 30, 1874.

On the right-hand side:

Pastor of the Second U. P. Church,
Allegheny, Pa., 1860—1872.
Colonel 123d and 193d Regiments,
1862—1864.

FORT WAYNE.

Project for Air Line Railroad from Council Bluffs to New York---Government Aid to be Solicited---Decoration Day Ignored.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., May 30, 1874.

A railroad project is afloat and creating considerable interest. Some Holland capitalists propose to introduce to Congress a petition asking for a grant to run an air line railroad from Council Bluffs to New York, passing through this city. Petitions will be circulated on Monday through this city. The railroad is to be known as the Continental Railway. It is proposed to utilize the right of way that was granted from Fort Wayne to Tiffin, O., by the Fort Wayne and Pacific Railway Company, which failed.

Decoration Day way entirely ignored. Business houses were all open. Not even flags was displayed.

CATASTROPHE NEAR ZANESVILLE.

Three Children Burned Alive---Their Parents Hear their Cries but can Give no Aid.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

ZANESVILLE, May 30, 1874.

About twelve o'clock last night the residence of Robert Jones, a farmer residsng about seven miles from Zanesville, was destroyed by fire, together with three of his children, aged thirteen, eleven and six. Last evening, Mr. and Mrs. Jones went to stay with a neighbor, leaving the children alone in the house. Seeing the house on fire, they ran to it, but all communication was cut off. The parents could hear their screams. One boy, aged sixteen jumped from the second story window and was badly injured.

GALLIPOLIS, O.

The Prohibition Ordinance Ineffectual---Jubilee of the Liquor Party.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GALLIPOLIS, O., June 1, 1874.

This was the day for the prohibition ordinance to take effect, but the saloons have closed and no arrests have been made. The liquor men are celebrating the event with music, balloon ascensions, &c., in Park Square this evening.

WASHINGTON, PA.

End of Court--Damages in a Breach of Promise Case--Strike of Workmen on the New College Buildings.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, PA., June 1 1874.

Court has closed. The case of Enoch vs. Mowl, breach of promise of marriage, resulted in a verdict for plaintiff—thirteen hundred dollars and cost.

A large force of bricklayers and masons, employed on the new college buildings, struck to-day, and work stopped.

HARRISBURG.

Fire in the Lunatic Asylum--Four Hundred Inmates Rush Out--Escape of Twelve.

HARRISBURG, June 1.—A slight fire occurred in the State Lunatic Asylum Saturday night. The smoke filling the main building, the inmates became greatly excited and broke the windows. The doors were thrown open and four hundred patients rushed out, twelve of whom escaped from the grounds, and six of these are still at large.

CASUALTIES.

Hanging on a Rock over Niagara Falls.

BUFFALO, June 1.—A painter named McCulloch, while working on the bridge on the Three Sisters Island, Niagara Falls, fell off the scaffold and was carried by the current near the edge of the falls, where he caught on a rock. He is still hanging there, and great excitement prevails.

RESCUED.

Later—After unceasing efforts from the bridge and shore, McCullough was finally rescued from his perilous position, by John Conroy, who, at the peril of his life, tied a rope to his body and made his way to the rock where McCullough had been so long hanging.

SENATOR CAMERON has introduced a bill in the Senate looking to a survey of the Susquehanna river from Chesapeake bay to the New York State line, and from that line through Seneca lake to the New York canal and to Lake Ontario, with the view of ascertaining the practicability of steamboat navigation between those points by dams, locks and canals. Also, as to the practicability of establishing similar communication between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays via Sassafras river.

CONNEAUTVILLE ON FIRE!

One-Third of the Town Burned.

FORTY-FIVE BUILDINGS IN ASHES.

Loss, One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Timely Aid from Erie Stays the Progress of the Flames.

LIMITS OF THE BURNED DISTRICT.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CONNEAUTVILLE, PA., June 1, 1874.

Our town was about one-third burned to-day. The fire commenced near the old Courtright warehouse and burned all the warehouses along the canal, the livery stable, and all the wooden buildings back of the Courtright & Strick's brick buildings, then across Center street, taking all the buildings south of Center and two west of Main street, to the next cross street, stopping at the house of Mrs. Charles Hammond.

About forty-five buildings were burned in all, near the center of the town, rendering about twenty families homeless. The Mayor of Erie was telegraphed to for a steamer, which was promptly sent by special train, but arrived too late to assist in putting out the fire, as it was already under control. It, however, did good service in putting out the burning debris and preventing the further spread of the fire, relieving our tired citizens who were completely exhausted. Great praise is due to the Mayor of Erie and the fire department of that city for their promptness in sending their steamer; and to Messrs. Kimball and Bates, managers of the Erie and Pittsburgh Railroad, for their promptness in sending the special train with the steamer. The loss is about one hundred thousand dollars. The insurance is light.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR MAY.

Decrease for the Month, $4,456,838.

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1874.—The following is an abstract of the official statement of the Public Debt for the month of May, 1874:

Six per cent. bonds	$1,213,967,900
Five per cent. bonds	510,279,000
Total coin bonds	$1,724,246,900
Lawful money debt	14,678,000
Matured debt	4,321,200
Legal tender notes	$ 382,076,777
Certificates of deposit	54,670,000
Fractional currency	46,538,649
Coin certificates	33,179,500
Total without interest	$ 517,444,927
Total debt	$2,261,691,027
Total interest	35,364,005
	$2,294,458,130
Cash in treasury, coin	$ 81,968,979
Cash in treasury, currency	11,171,706
Special deposit held for redemption of certificates, coin, as provided by law	56,650,000
Total in treasury	$ 149,186,685
Debt less cash in treasury	2,145,268,438
Decrease during month	4,456,838
Bonds issued to Pacific Railroad Companies, principal outstanding	64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid	1,615,587
Interest paid by United States	22,386,691
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, &c	5,096,450
Balance of interest paid by United States	17,291,241

PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Overture of Union from Old School Synod of Missouri---Good Feeling and Harmonious Action---Father Hunt Rebuked by a Colored Brother---The Board of Publication.

ST. LOUIS, May 28—The most important event which has thus far taken place in the General Assembly, was the reception this morning of an overture from Revs. James H. Brooks, John F. Phillips and Wm. Chrisman, a committee appointed at the recent conference of Presbyterians connected with the Old School Synod of Missouri. The overture related to the action of the General Assembly of the Old School, and which subsequently led to a division of the Synod of Missouri in 1866. It stated that it was instructed to enunciate distinctly and frankly the principles held by those whom they represented, and if, as they believe, the same principles were held by this General Assembly, there is nothing to prevent their more fraternal relations, which they long to see secured and permanently established.

Dr. Crosby then offered a response as follows:

WHEREAS, Certain brethren belonging to the Old School Presbyterian Synod of Missouri have overtured this Assembly, stating their principles regarding the plenary inspiration of the Scriptures and the proper jurisdiction of church courts in things ecclesiastical only, and in these according to the Word of God, together with their views concerning the confession of Faith, Catechisms, form of government and Book of Discipline,

Resolved, That this Assembly cordially accepts this overture, as exhibiting the principles of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and consider all actions of the church in the past, if any, which may have been inconsistent with these principles to be null and void."

The response was received with loud and long continued applause, and seventy gentlemen arose to speak on the question.

Judge Drake obtained the floor and, in moving the adoption of the report, said there were few members of the General Assembly that were so placed during the troubled times when civil war was raging, as himself, and he therefore could feel the delight the breaking down of the barriers which have alienated the Church of God. He believed the time would soon come when all who were estranged by reason of the civil war would come together again. If there was a man who claimed to be a Christian, who cherished any animosities rankling in his breast, he should go out and down on his knees and pray God to change his heart.

Dr. Nelson did not know that any such overture was coming before the Assembly, but since it did come he wanted something more than a mere vote on the subject. He wished for no humiliation. This was a time for reconciliation. The paper which had been read was a historic one and part of the grand records of the Church. The speaker alluded to the time when he was pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, and Dr. Brooks, who was one of the signers of the overture, was his earnest antagonist. Not long since he saw a circular in print signed by J. H. Brooks, calling a convention in his church of all those who stood by him. He immediately wrote to him, and since then all their former differences were settled. He asked, if Dr. Brooks be present, that he be called on to speak.

There were loud calls for Dr. Brooks, but he was not in the house. Prayer was offered by Father Hunt to direct the Assembly to vote right, and several hymns were sung. Many were affected to tears. When the vote on the adoption of the report was taken, it was unanimous. On motion of Dr. Breckenridge, a Committee of seven was appointed to inquire into the expediency of appointing a delegate to meet the next General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church South, which meets in St. Louis next year, and carry greetings and fraternal love.

Rev. H. H. Garnet (colored), of New York, rose to a question of privilege. Father Hunt had characterized the Emancipation Proclamation as one of the most unjust and unwise acts ever done. He regretted that such a remark had emanated from any member of the Assembly, and he found it hard to reconcile Father Hunt's statement on a previous occasion, that he had emancipated all his slaves before the law compelled him to do so, with what he had since said. He could not sit by and hear that proclamation alluded to in that manner without saying a word. Father Hunt had said the black man could not be raised out of ignorance, but he would tell him and the world that the gospel of Jesus Christ can raise everybody up.

Father Hunt explained the remarks, repeating the statement quoted, but the Assembly was unwilling to hear him at any length, and he had to take his seat.

Rev. Alexander Reed then gained the floor to continue his remarks on the Board of Publication. He considered that the Presbyterian church and its publications were not tenacious enough of its literature. They purchased many books that were not published by their own board. They were liberal in this respect, as well as in others, and as an instance of this he mentioned the fact that last year Presbyterians gave six thousand dollars more to the Bible Society than any other denomination.

Rev. Mr. Woods, of Mattoon, said there was a great prejudice against the literature of the Presbyterian Church, which was one reason why sales were small. Presbyterian literature was misrepresented to a great extent, but there was no reason why any fault could be found with the Board of Publication.

The discussion was freely indulged in, nearly all being in favor of continuing the colportage work of the board. A gentleman from Santa Fe said that to make a minister sell books would be the means of making him lose his influence as a minister. As for himself, he used nearly all the Sunday literature which the Church published, and he wanted to say, whenever a man asked him what a book was worth, "oh, nothing, only that you read it."

Rev. Mr. Gilkner, of Nebraska, a home missionary, said it was impolitic to give the work of colportage to ministers, for the reason that they have to neglect their ministerial work to engage in it; besides, he agreed with others that they lost their influence by being book peddlers. He asked if city preachers would like to be driven from their pulpits now, and travel from house to house with a load of books; and what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander, and they should not expect the poor, hard-worked missionaries to do what they don't want to do themselves. He advised them not to touch the missionary work of the Church.

At the evening session the discussion on the Board of Publication consolidation was resumed, and afterwards temporarily suspended to allow Rev. Mr. Woods, delegate from the Cumberland Presbyterian church, to extend the Christian greetings of his church to the Assembly. He expressed the desire of the church for union.

Dr. Brooks appearing in the house, he was called on and received with ringing applause. Judge Drake advanced and the two clasped hands amid the applause and cheers of the audience.

Dr. Booth offered a substitute for Mr. Woods' amendment. It was, in effect, that the Publication Board should remain as now, with a collection from the churches for its missionary work, the missionary department being separately constituted and keeping distinct accounts. The substitute was unanimously adopted and the item, as amended, passed.

ST. LOUIS, May 29.—Another exciting scene occurred in the General Assembly this morning. An overture from the Rock River (Illinois) Presbytery was presented, which desired the Assembly to tell them if St. Paul's language, concerning the preaching and praying of women in public, should be interpreted literally, and whether it applies to the praying of women at weekly prayer meetings.

Dr. Crosby, from the Committee on Overtures, said "Yes, except in special cases, to be decided by the pastor. But many voices cried "no," "no."

Judge Drake said: "If the Scriptures spoke plainly and unequivocally upon this subject, forbidding women to speak or pray, then the answer should be "Yes." If they do not, then it should be an emphatic "No."

Dr. Atkinson thought women should not speak or pray in public.

Dr. Blinn, of Troy, New York, thought women the greatest power in the Church—in fact, the right hand of it. [Loud applause from the Assembly and galleries.]

Several speeches were made pro and con, and demonstrations of approval and disapproval were frequent and hearty.

Dr. Crosby said a long debate on this question would lead to things which would militate against perfect harmony between the two bodies of the church, and asked members to let it alone. Finally the matter was referred to the committee of seven.

The Presbytery of Lackawanna, New York, wanted an expression of the Assembly on the question of total abstinence, which led to another lengthy discussion, in which Judge Drake participated. The regular order of the day, "shall the Board of Education remain as at present," then came up and was discussed.

After a lengthy discussion it was decided, by a vote of 218 to 148, that the Board of Education and the Committee on Ministerial Relief should remain separate, but with only one treasurer for both departments.

The annual report of the Board of Education was presented by Dr. Breed. The receipts, including that from interest, are $97,165; expenditures, $97,081. The Board still has a deficiency of $11,500. The report was received and adopted.

The temperance question was taken up again. Dr. Crosby, chairman of the Committee on Bills and Overtures recommended that no action be taken.

Dr. Jacobus offered a substitution that, in view of the prevalence of the terrible sin of intemperance, this Assembly cordially approves of and earnestly recommends the practice of total abstinence from all liquors as a beverage, and rejoicing in the recent progress made in blotting this sin from the face of the land of the same; also exhorting all to persevere in earnest efforts and prayer to diminish and extirpate this crying evil.

Dr. Jacobus further offered the Presbyterian Church should present an unbroken front against the accursed liquor traffic, but he found one obstacle to the accomplishment of this work. Brethren would force their peculiar notions on others. Many believe in teetotalism as a matter of expediency; he did, too, and it was for men to judge in this ground for themselves. Others wanted to make it a law of the Church, but he objected to this for the reason that it no longer leaves man to decide for himself. The consideration of the question will be resumed to-morrow.

THE CONSTITUTION.

Its Proposed Amendment Relative to the Election of President and Vice President.

As a substitute for the old provisions of Constitution relative to the election of President and Vice President, Mr. Morton, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate, has offered the following proposed amendment in the shape of a Joint resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two-thirds of each House concurring therein,) That the following article is hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of the Constitution, to-wit:

ARTICLE —.

1. The President and Vice President shall be elected by direct vote of the people in the manner following: Each State shall be divided into districts, equal in number to the number of Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress, to be composed of contiguous territory, and to be as nearly equal in population as may be; and the person having the highest number of votes in each district for President, shall receive the vote of that district, which shall count one Presidential vote.

II. The person having the highest number of votes for President in a State shall receive two Presidential votes from the State at large.

III. The person having the highest number of Presidential votes in the United States shall be President.

IV. If two persons have the same number of votes in any State, it being the highest number, they shall proceed each, one Presidential vote from the State at large; and if more than two persons shall have each the highest number of votes in any State, it being the highest number, no Presidential vote shall be counted from the State at large. If more persons than one shall have the same number of votes, it being the highest number in any district, no Presidential vote shall be counted from that district.

V. The foregoing provisions shall apply to the election of Vice President.

VI. The Congress shall have power to provide for holding and conducting the elections of President and Vice President, and to establish tribunals for the decision of such elections as may be contested.

VII. The States shall be divided into districts by the Legislatures thereof, but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter the same.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Bradford *Reporter* announces that James H. Webb, late a member of the Legislature, is not a candidate for renomination.

Each party in Luzerne county will be required to hold twenty-three conventions to place the political machinery in working condition.

Harrisburg is to have a new Democratic paper, a weekly, to act as the organ of the State Central Committee. The capital of the concern is to be $25,000.

Hon. F. D. Collins has been chosen delegate to represent the Eighth representative district in the Democratic State convention at Pittsburgh, for Lawrence county.

Morrow B. Lowry, of Erie, would like to go to Congress, but says the wicked Legislature took special pains to prevent his success by putting three strong Republican counties into his district—Erie, Warren and Venango.

The following gentlemen have been chosen to represent Forest county in the Congressional conference, and instructed to support General Harry White: J. B. Agnew, Esq., W. P. Marcelliott, Esq., and David Conder, Esq.

The Estate of the Late President Thomson

About twenty years ago the late President Thomson was married to Miss Smith, of Fishkill-on-the-Hudson. His wife survives him, but he leaves no children. It is stated that it was his intention, which he has probably carried out in his will, to have his estate revert after the death of his wife and form a fund for the establishment of a home and asylum for the orphan children of the employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company who may lose their lives in the discharge of their duties to that corporation. It is expected that his estate will prove to be a very large one.

CRUSADERS TRIUMPHANT.

The "Disorderly" Case in Court.

THE LADIES IN ATTENDANCE.

Colloquy Between the Court and the Attorneys.

No Argument Upon the Case Wanted.

Judgment of the Acting Mayor Reversed and Fines Ordered to be Returned.

Rejoicing of the Crusaders and Their Friends----Immense Meeting at Smithfield M. E. Church---Greetings from Abroad---Meetings Yesterday Afternoon and Last Night.

Thursday morning, as per arrangement, the case of the Woman Crusaders, tried by Acting Mayor McMasters for disorderly conduct, tending to a breach of the peace, came up in the Common Pleas Court on the writ of *certiorari*, and resulted in an order reversing the decision and restitution of the fines imposed. The rejoicing over this victory was great, and the crusaders held jubilee meetings during the day and evening. The proceedings of the day are given below in full.

ASSEMBLING AT THE ALLIANCE ROOMS.

At eight o'clock in the morning the crusaders and members of the Women's Temperance Union assembled, together with many male friends, at the Alliance Rooms, preparatory to attending Court. Religious services were held, after which Mrs. Hill read a communication from Mrs. E. L. Johnston, Secretary of the Ladies' Temperance League of Cincinnati, Ohio, as follows:

DEAR SISTER—In the faith that makes us sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ, we salute you. Your trials are our own and we tread in a through similar paths, and while we are willing to keep peace and submit in order and by the law, we are called to suffer for the truth, let us not waver. We commit you to the care of an overwatching Father. Be assured that if the laws and ordinances of man are wrested and perverted to circumvent the work, God can and will appoint to us a work, which, if performed with an eye single to His glory will redound to His exaltation in the earth.

MOVEMENT TO THE COURT ROOM.

Shortly before nine o'clock the crusaders who had been under arrest formed in line, preceded by Mr. Black, Mrs. Black and Mrs. Vanhorn, upon whom judgment had been pronounced by the Acting Mayor, and, followed by some hundred persons, proceeded to the court house. Their appearance upon the street attracted a large crowd, and the procession became drawn through hundreds rushed into Common Pleas Court room No. 1 and rapidly filled the body of the room, aisles and were provided seats inside the railing, while before long all the space there was occupied. Mrs. Dilworth, Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Hill sat to the left of the Judges, while Acting Mayor McMasters, Mrs. Black and Mrs. Vanhorn, who overhauled, sat to the right of the clerk's desk.

As counsel in the case, Messrs. Jennings and Swartzwelder appeared to make the defense, while Mrs. Black and Mrs. Vanhorn, and Mr. Coyle appeared to represent the other side.

JUDGE STERRETT'S ARRIVAL.

Judge Sterrett having arrived and taken his seat, Mr. Jennings said: May it please the Court, His Honor, Judge Stowe, fixed nine o'clock this morning for the hearing in this case, and however early counsel is ready to go on we are prepared to proceed.

Judge Sterrett—I expected, of course, the case would be heard before Judge Stowe. He did not come in with the parties who were acting it, and we had better wait for him. He will certainly be here very soon.

Mr. Jennings—It is a half an hour was fixed by Judge Stowe, your Honor being engaged at the time. We have purposely been prompt in beginning ourselves, but because you were engaged in the hearing of an argument elsewhere. So far as the defendants are concerned, we are ready to proceed to the hearing. We have been retained to the Acting Mayor of Pittsburgh to bring up the record in the case and we have been here two or three days ago. Exceptions are filed to the information, the warrant, and the testimony, and in the information it says, as Blackstone says, a disorderly person is one who is a common nuisance to the peace of the Honor, Judge Stowe. I do not see that it would be any act of discourtesy to him for your Honor to proceed with the case.

Judge Sterrett—I would rather he would be here if he comes soon.

CONSULTATION ON THE HEARING.

At twenty minutes to ten o'clock Judge Collier arrived, and took a seat by the side of Judge Sterrett.

After a short conference between the Judges, Judge Sterrett said: It is understood that when Judge Stowe will be here. Judge Collier informs me he was quite unwell yesterday. We will now go on with the hearing.

This announcement was received with evident satisfaction by the crusaders as well as the large number of the public who had gathered in the Court room.

During the reading of Mr. Jennings, which follows, Judge Stowe arrived and took his place on the bench.

Mr. Jennings, on the part of the ladies, opened the argument and said to the Court that this was a *certiorari* from Deputy Mayor McMasters. The defendants, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Vanhorn and Mr. Black, who were fined on a charge of disorderly conduct, it being alleged that they acted in a disorderly manner and obstructed the streets in a way tending to a breach of the peace, have been advised as to the exceptions taken to the finding of the Mayor and refer briefly to authorities.

Mr. Jennings then read the following exceptions to the finding:

1. That the evidence does not sustain the charge laid in the information, in this that it does not prove that the defendants acted in a disorderly manner, or that they obstructed the street or sidewalk or that they were ordered to move on when requested to do so.

2. That the record does not show the jurisdiction of the Deputy Mayor. The act of Assembly authorizing the Mayor to issue writs of science or sickness, to appoint a deputy, limits the jurisdiction of such deputies to cases of vagrancy, disorderly conduct and disorderly conduct, page 127, sec. 3.

3. That the information and proceedings are defective in not stating the time when, nor the place where, the alleged offense was committed and in not charging the defendants with any specific act in such a way as to individuate it and show that it falls within an unlawful class of acts.

4. The record is defective in not stating that the parties charged were ordered to move by some person having authority to do so.

5. That the defendants, in singing and praying, attracting a large crowd, obstructing the street and sidewalk, and refusing to move on when required, is not disorderly conduct, nor does it necessarily tend to a breach of the peace.

6. Collecting upon the sidewalk, singing and praying, attracting a large crowd, obstructing the street and sidewalk, and refusing to move on when requested, is not disorderly conduct, and not attempt what I regard as a shallow pretense to reach the case in this way under the color of law. If it is anything at all, it is nuisance.

Mr. Coyle—It is too much of that. [Laughter.]

Mr. Swartzwelder—I am glad your Honor did not attempt to go into the *terra incognita*—the unknown land.

Judge Stowe—We have enough without going into that. I have not had time to go carefully over the record in this or any other case here argued, for the purpose of giving an opinion that would be disagreeable to counsel, or that might embarrass me upon fuller argument and consideration, but the errors complained of are likely to commit us to decide everything in one case. I think in this case judgment should be reversed and restitution awarded. [Suppressed applause.]

ORDER OF THE COURT.

Judge Stowe then made the following order:

March 28, 1874, the within case came on to be heard, and upon due consideration thereof the judgment of the Mayor in said case is now reversed and set aside and restitution awarded.

By the Court.

THE REJOICING.

Upon the announcement of the order of the Court it was with difficulty that the crusaders and their friends could refrain from public expressions of satisfaction. The crowd left the court room, and as soon as the announcement of the Temperance Union were fairly out of the room and had formed in line they sang with a will the hymn, "Rock of Ages." It was about half-past ten o'clock when they marched down Fifth avenue and received the congratulations of several upon them. They procession at once went to Smithfield M. E. church, corner of Seventh avenue, on entering which they sang with great effect, "All hail the power of Jesus' name." The large audience room was soon crowded with spectators, and then the jubilee began.

The business was begun by Mrs. Collins calling Gen. F. H. Lane to the chair, and Mrs. Dr. Addison, Swartzwelder, Marshall, Jennings and Cochrane.

Mr. Lane's address, particularly his allusions to the intelligence and uprightness of the bench, was the signal of another burst of uncontrollable applause.

After singing the 100th psalm, Rev. Ormond led in prayer. "Shall we gather at the river bleed" was next sung.

Gen. Lane then recounted briefly the action of Judge Stowe.

Mrs. Mary B. Reese was then introduced, and commenced her remarks by quoting the lines of "Nearer, my God! to Thee." She referred to the clouds of persecution which were being swept away, and after referring to the progress the movement is making, closed by thanking the counsel for defendants for the able manner in which they had conducted the case, and returning the thanks of her sisters in Ohio for the consideration which had been shown to her during her stay here. She would remember the many acts of kindness as long as she lived.

Mrs. Hill was the next speaker. She said she felt encouraged, and said bright the day was dawning for our country. She counseled her sisters to take heart and press forward in the good work in which they are now engaged.

REMARKS OF REV. DR. HOWARD.

Dr. Howard was called upon, and when he responded was received with loud applause. He said right had gained some by the decision this morning, but the war was not yet over there were other conflicts and other victories to gain; the serpent that has fixed itself in public places has been scotched but not killed. He said the ladies had their heels on the serpent's head, but it was not yet dead; they could not retreat unless the accursed thing can be killed. He hoped that others would come to their help. What a force all those ladies

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1874.

THE new revenue bill, as it passed the House, provides for taxing all sales of gold and silver, bonds, stocks, &c., one-twentieth of one per cent., to be paid on the fifteenth and last days of each month, under cash.

THE Westchester *Republican* learns that Mr. HAINES, formerly of this city, recently removed from the position of Commissioner of Customs, is about to be appointed to some other important place in the Treasury Department.

THE exports of domestic produce from the port of New York last week, amounted to $5,376,034, as against $5,305,204 last year; but the exports of gold and silver were $2,214,567, as against $526,992 last year—a showing on the wrong side of the ledger.

A DEMOCRATIC editor out West says no man shall read the Declaration of Independence to *him* on the 4th of July, if he has a shot-gun handy. Your average Democratic editor has as much dislike for the Declaration of Independence as the devil for holy water.

COME to think about the matter, it is not at all singular that the Democrats in Congress should array themselves almost unbrokenly against the Woman's Suffrage movement. Most likely their instinct tells them that female ballots mean for them the political guillotine.

THE imports at the port of New York for last week show a falling off from the previous week of both dry goods and general merchandise, the total, however, being $8,580,605, against $6,515,921 for the corresponding week of last year. The total imports since the first of January foot up $178,706,890, against $186,264,579 for the corresponding period of 1873.

THE "Democratic" party has no longer an existence, as such, in Michigan. It is now called the "National Reform" party, and is made up of the same old lot of incurables as under the ancient name. But change of name does not necessarily include a change of character. A skunk might be re-christened "Cashmere Bouquet," but he would not smell any sweeter.

ONE of the YOUNGER gang of cut-throats and highwaymen in Missouri is proposed as a candidate on the Democratic State ticket, at the ensuing election in that State. The present Democratic State government is incompetent to arrest or disperse the gang; and as they are not brought to justice, and are not worse than the rebel cut-throats who are just now coming to the front in Missouri politics, the suggestion is not half so wild as, at first blush, it would seem.

WEST and South the Democracy are beginning to respond to the nomination of EATON in Connecticut. In Indiana the foremost Congressional candidate of that party in his district, is MILLIGAN, a convicted traitor who only escaped the gallows through the mercifulness of President LINCOLN, while down in North Carolina they have nominated one of the former chiefs of the Ku-Klux Klan for the office of Superior Court Judge. It is to be feared that the baleful fires which have scorched the land so much, have by no means gone out in the South.

LATE dispatches from Generals STANLEY and CUSTER, received at General SHERIDAN'S headquarters in Chicago, indicate that very serious trouble with the Indians is anticipated, and that it is questionable whether the troops on the Upper Missouri will be able to cope with the powerful war parties of Sioux who have abandoned their reservations. The Reds, who are stated to be the objects of attack, are peaceable, and many of them are employed as scouts. An attack on them virtually means an attack upon the forts and settlers. What these uneasy Sioux tribes need is such a trouncing as will teach them that the wisest thing they can do is to be peaceable and stick to their reservations.

THE Montana *Herald* is authority for the statement that during one of the skirmishing fights had by the Yellowstone Expedition with the Indians, the nephew of YATES, the man who murdered Col. CUSTER in shooting an Indian. Rushing upon the dying red skin, the nephew unsheathed a large knife and cut the savage's heart out, and with the same instrument deliberately proceeded to disembowel the quivering carcass of the Indian. Stepping back, with a smile of satisfaction lighting up his countenance, he quietly remarked: "Now I am even for the killing of my uncle." In what respect was this man less a savage than the Indian he was fighting? The Indian has some excuse for being a savage and a brute; but what excuse had YATES?

AN IRATE correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* has discovered that an advertisement in that paper for proposals to furnish twelve new boilers for the Cincinnati water works, according to plans and specifications, contains a proviso that the boilers are to be made of BROWN'S iron—"that is, BROWN, of Pittsburgh—leaving out in the cold all of our rolling mills and boiler-plate makers, who do not even have an opportunity to bid, as he wants to know whether it is right that in Cincinnati they must be forced to go to Pittsburgh to get boiler-plate for Cincinnati water works? We can inform him as to the reason. Numerous tests, made at different times, have demonstrated that in tensile strength and quality, the boiler-iron of our Pittsburgh manufacturers excels that of Cincinnati manufacturers. That is cheapest which is best, and the Cincinnati water works authorities are simply practising a wise economy in the course they have adopted.

IN THIS city, in 1865, the Old School Presbyterian General Assembly promulgated a patriotic war utterance which the Synod of Missouri, by declaration and testimony, emphatically protested against. The next year the General Assembly protested against the "protest," condemning it as slanderous, schismatical, and rebellious, and the recalcitrant signers were called to account, but they adhered firmly to their position, the result being a breach, and subdivision of the Synod into two repugnant branches. From that time until last week the gulf thus created remained unbridged; but on last Friday's session of the General Assembly now convened in St. Louis, overtures looking to reconciliation were made from the two protestants. According to the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, from which paper we derive the facts, the Assembly instantly accepted the overture with loud and long-continued applause. Speeches followed, urged to the most enthusiastic pitch of impassioned eloquence, from Judge DRAKE, of Washington; Dr. NELSON, of Cincinnati; and from Dr. BROOKES, of St. Louis, who had been in the van of the "declaration and testimony" revolt. "Another had spoken," said Dr. BROOKES, referring to Judge DRAKE, "to whom he had said he hoped never to meet again till at the bar of God. If that brother was near enough he would like to clasp his hand." At this point Judge DRAKE called out: "Here I am," and leaped impetuously over the desks of the reporters, mounted the platform, and grasped the hand of Dr. BROOKES, with quivering lips, at which spectacle the whole house broke out into thunders of applause, and dissolved in tears. And thus another war chasm is closed. "Let us have peace"—theological as well as otherwise.

THE newspapers of the country are all so much rejoiced over RICHARDSON'S removal from the Treasury that they look with more than ordinary favor upon BRISTOW'S appointment. He is welcomed as a great relief; and although his lack of financial experience is regarded as a drawback, his reception is marked by more than usual kindness of spirit. There is every disposition to give him a fair trial, and leave him untrammeled in making his reputation in his new position. The following, from the Baltimore *American*, is a fair specimen of the current newspaper comment on his appointment:

> "The people will expect to see the Department cleared of the class of attaches and hangers-on who are the outgrowth of a system of which Messrs. Sawyer and Banfield are the chiefest ornaments and choicest products. Mr. BRISTOW will have the advantage of assuming the office unburdened with previous failures, and that is a great deal in these days when it has become the fashion to "vindicate" an unfaithful and incompetent official by removing him from one position to give him a better one. He has not been prominently before the public except as Solicitor General of the Department of Justice, which office he seems to have filled with credit to himself. When there was danger of Attorney General Williams obtaining a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court, the probability of Mr. Bristow being promoted to the vacancy caused the question of his capabilities to be discussed, and he was generally conceded that he possessed the requisite qualifications. He is said to be too good a lawyer to be tricked by a Sanborn, and of too much integrity to permit himself to be used by the shrewd rascals who are forever manœuvering for a grab at the public funds. Moreover, he is reported to be an independent, fearless man, politically and above prostituting his high office to the meaner devices and needs of partisanism. There are other men of high reputation whose appointment might give more general satisfaction, but the deserved fair treatment at the hands of the people and the press until he has been proved to merit something different."

CENTRALIZATION IS NOT A REMEDY.

The natural tendency of every man in this country who has any project of reform or change on hand seems to be, not to do anything himself or to get others to help him, but to demand the passage of a law to give it effect. He calls on Congress or the Legislature to put his project in force. The government, in the eyes of such men, must do every thing, and the people nothing. They never stop to think that this continual heaping of power upon the government, and trusting everything to it, is the sure road to centralization and despotism. When we have succeeded in putting the telegraph, the post-office, the railroads, the whole system of transportation, the school, the church, the shop, the factory, and everything else in the hands of the government, where will we be? Either in a Commune or under a strong, paternal government from which every popular element has been eliminated.

We are reminded of this tendency by the proposition of a San Francisco reformer to put the entire business of making and selling fermented and spirituous liquors in the hands of the general government. He would have one huge government saloon in every city to retail the government's own make of ale, beer, cider and whisky. It is the easiest thing done in the world, he thinks. All that is necessary is to pass a law.

We are also further reminded of it by the lately published programme of a new party which is said to be in process of formation at Washington. Here it is:

> First, a call for a Constitutional Convention to effect several changes in the fundamental laws of the United States, among which will be: (*a*) the election of President, Vice President and Senators directly by the people; (*b*) subordinating all municipal to the national government; (*c*) disallowing a special provision to any corporation; (*d*) adding largely to the authority of the general government in matters affecting transportation and the trades of the country; (*e*) making such banking provisions as will allow the general government to institute banks under its own authority.
>
> Second, an immediate agitation for committing Congress and the nation at once to the carrying out of the scheme of the five great artificial water routes recommended by the Transportation Committee of the Senate.
>
> Third, the construction of at least two direct freight railways, under the authority of the general government, to regulate the charges on the main lines of the country.

This is a wholesale change, and it is to be reached by a change in the Constitution, instead of passing a law. There are men in Congress who think that the government can do all that is here asked for under the present Constitution; but the framers of this platform concede the present lack of constitutional power to do what they want, and hence address themselves to the work of constitutional revision as the first requisite. It comes to the same thing in the end, however. Give them the constitutional amendments they ask for, and then they will endeavor to accomplish what they aim at by passing a law.

The only evidence of the existence of such a new party, yet afforded, is this published platform of its policy. There are said to be twenty members of Congress committed to it; but as no names are given, it is probable that they are either repudiated back-paysters or are ashamed of the meagreness of their array. We take it for granted nevertheless, that there are men in Congress wild enough in judgment to be captivated by such a plan as this; and that such propositions will have to be met, hereafter, and combatted.

The whole purpose, it will be seen, is to get rid of corporations by making the National government do their work and take their place. The railroad corporations are to be got rid of, and the government is to become the great carrier and transporter. It is to open new routes, build new roads, and become a huge transporting machine. The possession of the telegraph by the government would be the next step; and from that point onwards to the possession of absolute power the progress would be easy and certain.

With our present ideas, we can have nothing to do with such a policy. We would rather see the government curtailed of some of its powers than have its powers enlarged and extended. We do not believe in the omnipotence of mere laws, nor do we believe in a government powerful enough to do as it pleases. Our present form of government is not all that could be desired; but we prefer to endure the ills we have under it than to fly to others we know not of. It is not worth while to jump out of the frying-pan into the fire. The tyranny of corporations is bad; but the tyranny of strong governments is worse. The world is always in danger of being governed too much, and power steals away from the many to the few, fast enough, without being aided. It is much more important, to those who believe in a republican form of government, to prevent the concentration of power than to promote it. The royal road to reform is not in making laws, but in making public sentiment; and the people who are the source of all power, will act more wisely by keeping power in their own hands than by entrusting it to a government which, although created by them, may eventually become strong enough to continue in power in spite of those who created it.

ELECTION EXPENSES.

We call the attention of all parties concerned to the following act of Assembly passed in pursuance of the Constitutional provision, to which we referred the other day, prohibiting the use of money to influence the primary meetings of the people:

> That no person who shall hereafter be a candidate for nomination or for election to the Senate or House of Representatives or to any office of the judiciary, or to any State, municipal or county office in this Commonwealth shall pay or contribute, either directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing, or knowingly allow it to be done by others for him, either for nomination, election or appointment, except the necessary expenses as follows, to wit:
>
> First—For printing and traveling expenses.
>
> Second—For dissemination of information to the public.
>
> Third—For political meetings, demonstrations and conventions.
>
> The foregoing expenses may be incurred either in person or through other individuals, or committees of organization duly instituted for the purpose, but nothing contained in this section shall be construed as to authorize the payment of money or other valuable thing for the vote or influence of any elector, either directly or indirectly, at primary, township, general or special elections, nominating conventions, or for any corrupt purpose whatever incident to an election, and all judicial, State, county and municipal officers hereafter elected shall, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the oath prescribed by section 1, article 7 of the Constitution of this Commonwealth.
>
> Every person violating either of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine not exceeding $1,000, and to imprisonment not exceeding one year, or either, at the discretion of the court.

Immigration During 1873.

The immigration to this country from foreign ports last year fell off nearly seventy thousand, as compared with the return for 1872. The immigration into Canada was, on the contrary, largely increased. The two results are attributed to business depression in this country, consequent upon the panic of last fall, and to the activity displayed in Canada during the last year or more in stimulating immigration and in opening up her western possessions to settlers. The immigration into this country was 422,545 persons, of whom nearly one-third were of German birth. Thirty-seven per cent. came from Ireland and Great Britain. Irish immigration seems to have passed its highest point, partly owing to the absence of any great political excitement on the island, and partly to the improved condition of the remaining inhabitants consequent upon the large reduction of the population by the emigration in former years. The immigration from Sweden shows a great falling off, while that from France, Italy and Russia is increasing. Three-fourths of the immigrants belonged to the Teutonic, Celtic and Anglo-Saxon races. Of over 400,000 immigrants, only 2,200 had professions, and 46,000 were skilled trades; the remainder being laborers, women and children.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

Are all men thieves, or does the same wrinkle creep, simultaneously, into human brains? A short time ago a patent was issued for a bit of string projecting from the corner of envelopes, by which the end of the envelope could easily be torn open. In a month's time after that patent was allowed, over fifty applications were made for patents for precisely the same device.

OUR DEAD.

In Memoriam: May 30, 1874.

BY RICHARD REALF.

Thank God for Freedom's martyrs! They do give
Perpetual consecration unto it;
Quickening the clay of our insensitive
Dull natures with the awe of infinite
Sun-crowned transfigurations, such as sit
On the solemn-brooding mountains. O, the dead,
How they do shame the living! How they warn
Our little lives that chaffer for the bread
Of peace, and tremble at the world's poor scorn,
And pick their steps among the flowers, and tread
Daintily soft where the raised idols are—
Most piteous of luminance dimmed and shorn,
When most they should flame out and flash afar
Light like the streaming of the Northern Star.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Twas woman led man first astray,
Gave him the fruit forbidden;
The time has come; make no delay,
And lead him back to Eden.

Chorpenning is around again, as lively as ever.

Heavy rains have fallen in India. This will be likely to save thousands of lives.

What is fame? "Burridge" is how the New York *Tribune* prints the name of the Governor of Illinois.

There has been no rain in Georgia for thirty-five days, and the drought is seriously affecting the crops.

The sudden sympathy of the Democratic papers with the temperance cause is very edifying, but it is very undemocratic.

A Virginia paper tells a cool story of a man who was last week frozen to death on the summit of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

On account of the depression in trade, less than half the new buildings erected in the Boston burnt district have been taken.

Shoddy "heroism." Cheney, the Mill river gate-keeper, has hired himself out to a showman to be toted around the country as a curiosity.

We are threatened with another attack of Vinnie Ream. The dead Farragut is to be set up in marble or bronze, and Vinnie is after us.

The San Joaquin Valley, in California, has been transformed by irrigation from a desert into one of the most fertile districts in the country.

Now we know why United States Senator Ferry, of Michigan, wants Mackinaw Island converted into a national park. He was born there.

The Mexican raids on the Rio Grande have been renewed. If this thing continues, Mexico will presently find Uncle Sam arrayed against it.

The failure of the British government in operating telegraph lines, should be a sufficient warning to our own government to let postal telegraphy alone.

The furniture of the late Senator Sumner's Washington residence was sold at auction yesterday. A thousand dollars was paid for one of his clocks.

The total interments of Union soldiers in all of the cemeteries of the country is 367,694. Of these the "unknown" number 141,060, and the "known" 166,604.

We notice that the New York Temperance leaders are in arms against Governor Dix. What in the world do they expect to gain by their present movement?

Woman suffrage is as sure to arrive and stay, as a mathematical axiom is certain to be correct. Each new discussion shows a nearer approach to the goal.

Don Piatt says: "Humor is to a newspaper what a tail is to a kite—very absurd, but very necessary to its ascension." Don has sunk a good deal of money in his *Capital*.

Recent visitors to the inundated regions of the Mississippi Valley affirm that the half has not yet been told of the real extent and degree of the destitution in those sections.

A largely attended "grasshopper convention" has just been held in Minnesota. The general opinion prevailed that a destruction of the crops this season was inevitable.

The reanimation of a dead child by a galvanic battery is the latest New Orleans romance. And the Northern papers are copying this imitation of Poe as if it were a *bona fide* narrative.

The lower branch of Congress has just passed a bill which provides that all savings banks doing business as such, and all deposits in such banks, shall be exempt from taxation.

The New York Central is now laying down new tracks, and will soon have four in operation, which Vanderbilt believes will enable him to move freight as cheap as on the Erie canal.

The fact that a number of United States officers at the most exposed frontier posts are sending their families out of harm's way, indicates that the Indian troubles are likely to prove serious.

A new line of steamers is just ready to commence its trips between New York and Venezuela. The vessels are American built, and American manned. Such a communication has long been needed.

The estimation in which San Domingo credit is held can scarcely form an argument for annexation, especially if we are required to pay her debts. Her six per cent.'s are worth only ten cents twice.

The champion conundrum of the season: Why a man who is forced to resign one office by reason of his proved incapacity, should be installed in another that is supposed to require great probity and intelligence.

Veins of silver ore have recently been discovered in the South Mountains, Virginia, in the vicinity of "White Gap," and the developments are of such a character as to lead to the expectation of highly profitable results therefrom.

PERSONAL.

It is said to be really true about Alexandrowna.

A marble-fronted and marble-hearted Chicagoan, worth a quarter million, lately tried to get a little child indicted for stealing fifty cents worth of wood.

The Mordaunt divorce case, which created so much scandal in England five years ago, and in which the Prince of Wales was implicated, is probably about to be reopened.

A Mrs. Strabaugh, of Indiana, has presented her husband with a healthy and interesting child, which, besides this, has accidentally allotted by nature, has a second one growing from the right hip.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* notes the departure for Europe of Mr. Franklin B. Gowen, President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and also President of the Reading Coal and Iron Company. Mr. Gowen goes abroad to recuperate his somewhat impaired health.

Vice President Henry Wilson, who was the guest of General Kilby Smith, at Tordesilas, Spain, last week, is now at home in Massachusetts. He intends soon to make a trip to the Northwest. The impression is quite general that he will never again be able to occupy the chair and preside over the deliberations of the Senate. He is nearly blind in his left eye, and the duties of presiding officer are such as to aggravate his ailment.

This is one of the Cincinnati *Commercial's* letters from the people: Mr. Editor—Will you please enquire to some lawyer or advertise in your paper weather i can get a devorce in this State. i find it impossible to live eny longer with my wife. i have been married two years and may God forgive me for taking the last one 6 months ago. She is 10 year older than i and deceaved me by waring fals hair and teath, and a grievous fall her birth is so bad it rots the fals teath. izzent that cause enough afore eny coart. If you print your anser mark it to X Y Z. dont print my name. Yours respectfully. the crops is looking good saving we need rain badly.

Henry Ward Beecher was recently asked "What can we do for a friend for whom we have prayed a long time, and all that we can say or do only makes him more determined to have his own way?" And he makes the reply: "Nobody likes to live in an atmosphere of incessant reproof. If you want to win his heart and melt his opposition, do not darken his life by making him feel, even when you look or act, that you are groaning over him as a miserable sinner. Make his life cheerful to him; make your own love for him a source of joy, let your piety be full of sweetness and light; show the utmost appreciation of his good qualities, and be patient. The case, as you state it, is not a very bad one." It is an entire sermon, and one of the best that ever came from even Mr. Beecher.

THE Arabs, who have many good proverbs, have one which is found truer and truer the more experience we have of life. "While the word is yet unspoken," they say, "you are master of it; but when it is spoken it is the master of you." "Ill luck and good luck both know this proverb by heart, and though both quarrel with it, they know well that their quarrel is hopeless." "Oh, stranger! what quarrel is so incapable of fence of thy teeth!" so often repeated in Homer, has a familiar sound as we read it; for our hearts say it to our hearts life long, from the day when the heart has first a voice.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Franklin county Republican convention will be held on Tuesday next.

The Huntingdon county Republican Committee has been called to meet at Huntingdon on the 11th inst.

Ovid F. Johnson, Esq., a young lawyer, is talked of for the Democratic nomination for the Legislature from Harrisburg.

Messrs. Charles Connor, E. J. McHenry and Allen Mann, are announced in Columbia county as candidates for Representatives.

Prof. William Howard Day will contest with Mr. Child for the Republican nomination for member of the Legislature in Harrisburg.

The Republican Executive Committee of Armstrong county have fixed on Saturday, June 27, as the time for holding the primary election.

The Beaver papers announce Hon. Wm. S. Moore, of Washington, as a candidate for re-election to Congress. Mr. Moore is the only candidate yet announced for that district.

The Democratic committee of Monroe county have elected Hon. C. Burnett as Senatorial and Robert R. Depue as representative delegate to the State Convention. James Place, Hon. Peter Gruver and C. S. Palmer were appointed Congressional conferees.

Hon. F. C. Bunnell, of Wyoming county, is named by a correspondent of the Bradford *Reporter* as a Republican candidate for Congress. The editor of the *Reporter*, however, claims that Bradford county is entitled to the nomination, as her heavy Republican vote always secures the success of the party in the district.

The following gentlemen are named in connection with the United States Senatorship: Benjamin Harris Brewster, Senator Scott, J. Donald Cameron, Winthrop W. Ketchum, W. H. Kemble, General Harry White, General Albright, Senator Strang, Hon. W. D. Kelley, W. H. Armstrong, Hon. A. C. Harmer, and Hon. L. D. Shoemaker.

A Harrisburg letter to the Wilkesbarre *Record* says that Col. W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, is working hard for the Democratic nomination for Auditor General. The Colonel was the Democratic candidate for the same office in 1865. His chief competitors now are said to be James P. Barr, of Pittsburgh, and Colonel McCandless, of Philadelphia.

The following are candidates for Assembly in Crawford county: E. L. Litchfield, A. G. Eberhart and R. D. Myers, of Conneautville; Hon. M. W. Oliver, of Spring, and Hon. Fred Bates, of Titusville, are candidates for re-election; Colonel J. B. Compton and Major D. V. Derrickson, Meadville; Dr. W. C. Roberts, of Titusville, and John W. Rhodes, of Riceville, may be added to the list. Other names are others talked of but not yet announced.

The Schuylkill County Republican Committee met on Monday and selected delegates to fill the vacancies under the new apportionment, and the delegation now stands as follows: Senatorial—Captain Jas. K. Helms and John Cathers. Representative—A. B. Cochran, M. M. L'Velle, J. P. Parker, John Parker, publisher of *Mahanoy Valley Record*, Daniel B. Miller, and George W. Cole. They were instructed to support Surveyor General Beath for nomination as Secretary of Internal Affairs.

Some trouble has arisen in the city of Philadelphia in regard to the choice of delegates to the Democratic State Convention originating in the vicious custom of choosing delegates six or eight months in advance of the proper time. We observe that in the Sixth representative district a call has been issued for a delegate election June 15, not authorized by the city executive committee. It is to be hoped such matters may be adjusted without sending contesting sets of delegates to Pittsburgh.—*Harrisburg Patriot.*

It is reported by some persons that Hon. S. S. Blair will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress, in this district, the coming campaign. This is not true. Mr. Blair is a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, before the Republican State Convention—an office for which his great abilities so eminently fit him—and which his friends in this section of the State so earnestly desire to see him secure. He is not, therefore, a candidate for both offices, and the report that he is a candidate for Congress is false. If his friends fail to secure the nomination for Supreme Judge, is only gotten up by his enemies to injure his chances for the latter position, and will be frowned down by his friends.—*Hollidaysburg Register.*

Hon. Frank Mantor, of Crawford county, in response to a call extensively signed, declines being a candidate for Congressional honors. We quote from his letter of declination the following:

> "I believe the time has come when the office should seek the man, and not the man the office. I also believe that whenever a man is elected to office he should lay aside his party prejudices and remember that his constituents are behind him as constituents. When this course shall be pursued, we shall see less and hear less clamoring for political spoils. While I would be unhappy to comply with your wishes, I am firm in the belief that there are men in the district who can serve you better. I have no personal aspirations or ambitions to gratify, but have only the good of the country at heart. I desire that you will excuse me, and allow me to remain the humble citizen that I am."

STATE NEWS.

Meadville has the measles.

Harrisburgers have quit eating hamrichina.

There was a heavy frost at Cresson on Monday night.

Reading is to have street cars by the fourth of July.

A large huckleberry crop is predicted by the mountaineers.

They are hard at work on the new opera house at Lemming.

The Lutheran Ministerium of the State is in session in Lancaster.

Brown's Bellefonte *Republican* will shortly resume publication.

The loss by fire at the Harrisburg Lunatic Asylum was only $482 62.

There were twenty-two deaths in Harrisburg during the month of May.

The crows are making destructive raids on the cornfields of Dauphin county.

The carpet manufacturers of Philadelphia have formed a permanent association.

Permits for the erection of 669 new buildings were granted in Philadelphia during May.

Peter Starr, Sr., died in Riley township, Schuylkill county, on the 31st ult., aged ninety-four years.

West Chester has lost another "old landmark." Ann Taylor, aged ninety-four years, died on Monday.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Commencement at St. Francis College, Loretto, will take place on the 6th inst.

The Baptist church at Hollidaysburg, having been thoroughly repaired, was rededicated on Sunday last.

Trinity Episcopal church, Easton, was opened on Sunday, the new rector, Rev. Wm. B. Morrow, officiating.

Mrs. A. C. Harvey died very suddenly on the 26th ult., at her home in Eldred township, Lycoming county.

The first regatta, under the auspices of the Philadelphia Yacht Club, will take place on the Delaware June 18.

It is rumored that the Philadelphia *New Age* will soon change proprietors again and become Democratic in politics.

Harrisburg has 144 Masters, and 125 Smiths, eighteen of them Johns, while the Jones family numbers only seventy.

Alvin Kressly, aged fourteen, was kicked by a horse in Allentown, on the 30th ult., and died from his injuries on Sunday.

The Gilmer street chapel, Williamsport, was set on fire the other night, but the flames were discovered and extinguished.

Samuel R. Roeder was thrown from a horse in Gerysville, Berks county, and so badly injured that he died two days later.

A Lancaster man walked a distance of forty-five miles in ten hours and forty-five minutes, a feat worthy of Weston himself.

A fine vein of soft fossil ore has been opened near the foot of Brush mountain, at a point near Bell's Mills, in Blair county.

West Lampeter, Lancaster county, comes to the front with a calf having eight legs and two tails. The animal is alive and doing well.

About one hundred cars of grain, on an average, pass through Williamsport daily on the Philadelphia and Erie road going East.

Caterpillars over the fruit trees in parts of Lycoming county, eating the leaves and bidding fair to destroy the prospects of a good crop.

A Reading hoodlum of fifteen, named Warner, deliberately shot Jeremiah Snyder, a young man, on Monday, injuring him only slightly. The shooter made his escape.

A new daily paper, to be called the *Evening Mirror*, will be printed in Altoona commencing on the 13th inst. Messrs. Slep, Akers & Co., will be editors and proprietors.

The Hollidaysburg *Register* says Thomas G. Trout of Antis township, has discovered a good paying vein of valuable white clay on his farm from which fine porcelain ware can be made.

A man named Deitz, at Safe Harbor, went to a doctor and procured a number of doses of morphine, to be taken at intervals. He was found dead shortly afterwards, and it is supposed took all the medicine at once.

FORGERIES BY A FARMER.

His Capture After Two Year's Search—Remanded to Pennsylvania by Governor Dix.

[From the New York Times, 2d.]

A United States Government Service detective arrived here last week with a warrant from Governor Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, for Levi Saunders, a wealthy farmer and cattle dealer at Waynesborough, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, charged with extensive forgeries on the Franklin County bank, at Chambersburg. The officers tracked him from this city to the Suspension Bridge, Niagara Falls, and found him boarding on the Canada side, under the name of Jarvis Stevens. The postmaster on the American side enticed him across to get a letter, and he was arrested as he was stepping off the Grand Trunk cars. He was taken to Pennsylvania under the requisition of Governor Dix, and after being fully identified was locked up in the Franklin county jail on Saturday. The prisoner has been a fugitive since 1872. He is charged, among other acts, with having forged the signatures of Simon Lecrone and J. Nicodamus, two rich Pennsylvania stock speculators, as indorsements on five checks of $2,500 each, which he drew on the Union bank of Philadelphia, where he had an account. He passed four of the notes on the Franklin County Bank, but on presenting the fifth one, Mr. Johnson, the bank cashier, refused to discount it, because of some discrepancy in the figures. Subsequent investigation revealed all the forgeries, and also showed that Saunders had personally sent all the checks, except the four named, a few days before they were cashed at the Union Bank. Saunders is also accused of stealing several thousand dollars belonging to an estate for which he was assignee. Detectives have been looking for him for two years.

Coal and Iron of Western Pennsylvania.

(Correspondence of the Engineering and Mining Journal.)

Allow me to say a few words in regard to the present and future prospects of Western Pennsylvania, and particularly about the valley of the Allegheny river.

I have seen some writers ridicule the idea of Pennsylvania long keeping the lead of, or even competing in iron manufacture with, her sister States of the West and South. Let us see how the question stands. The bituminous coal field extends over some 12,500 square miles of Western Pennsylvania, and, including the different seams, has a total thickness of workable coal of 25 to 30 feet; only Western Virginia can compare with this. Most of the area is underlaid with the deposits of carboniferous and hematite ores, and heavy seams of limestone. These minerals are to be found in unlimited quantities.

Now, how are any of our sister States going to compete with any of them have rich iron, but they come to us for coal and coke to smelt them with. Thousands of tons of Pennsylvania coke are taken annually to Ohio, and others as far as Missouri for this purpose; they have coal nearer home, but must depend principally on our coke.

Why can Pennsylvania bring Missouri ore to her furnaces and send them back cheaper iron than they can make at home? Simply because ore can be moved so much cheaper than coke, and our present manufacturing facilities seem to be better.

The cost of making iron in Missouri at present, is about $35 00 per ton, and in Ohio about the same. Our furnaces are turning our iron at Pittsburgh for less than $30 00 on the same ores.

But pass on up the Allegheny river into Armstrong and Clarion counties, and you will find the figures considerably less still; here the native ores are used. These counties have the greatest abundance of the finest coking coal, and the cost of mining in any part of the State, also heavy beds of the different ores of this State, and seams of fossiliferous limestone, varying in thickness from sixty-five feet down to 12. All of these seams of mineral are found above the water level of the streams, with a gradual rise towards the North, giving every advantage for cheap mining, and the natural drainage to mines; a few hours' work of one man with pick and shovel will expose to view any of the different strata. The operator has only required to put his capital in expensive mining machinery, pumps, etc. The cost of pig iron here is as follows—varying slightly at the different furnaces—but the figures can be relied on as correct in the main:

2¼ tons of ore at $4 25	$10 62
½ ton of limestone at $1	50
1 bushels coke at 8c	4 50
Interest on capital	1 00
Labor, salaries and repairs	4 00
Total	$20 62

To send it to the Pittsburgh market costs $2 more, making total cost of a ton of iron in market $22 62. Thus you see why the furnaces in the Allegheny valley did not blow out during the winter.

Fire clay of the finest quality is everywhere found throughout this valley, and several extensive brick works are in constant operation. The country is expanding wonderfully along the river, of late; the opening of railroad connections within the last two years to the lakes and East, will, ere long, bring the wealth of the main sources of supply to all the Northern and Eastern country, situated as we are on the northern extremity of the great bituminous coal field.

The discovery of petroleum in the Allegheny Valley, and the enormous business which has sprung up from it, has absorbed for the moment the extraordinary individual energy of our people, and they left the *solid* wealth of their hills lie almost untouched, until strangers have come in and purchased thousands of acres for the coal and ore, so that the development has only been, you might say, commenced, and the wealth of coal and iron far known as the idea entertained by our most sanguine inhabitants. Our hills are covered with white pine, oak, chestnut, walnut and all varieties of valuable timber, to the depth of feet of which are annually floated down the Allegheny to the Western and Southern markets; our streams furnish magnificent water-power for saw mills and other manufacturing purposes. Pure air and a healthy climate are ours also.

No observing person could or does pass through this valley, without noting the wonderful resources of the country, combined with the beauty and grandeur of the scenery.

We don't feel a bit uneasy about the Western and Southern States getting ahead of us in the manufacturing of iron, until our supply of materials commences to grow scarce, and we think they will find out what Pennsylvania is made of ere that time arrives. PIG IRON.

An Antiquarian Discovery—The Remains of a Forgotten Race.

The staid citizens of Rockford, Ill., are quite excited over the recent discovery of certain pits dug, it is believed, by moundbuilders many centuries ago. It is a pretty generally accepted theory that the valley of the Mississippi and the region of the great lakes was inhabited ages ago by a race of people who were in many respects civilized and intelligent. Who these people were that thus lived and flourished, and what became of them, are questions which have puzzled the scientific men of the present age. The mounds, the pits and the carvings of stone are all that remain of a people once powerful have passed away, and no inscription has yet been found which gives us a clue to their identity. The banks of Rock river, a beautiful, rolling stream, on which Rockford is situated, are prolific in what are known as Indian mounds. A few months ago, a farmer living six miles south of the city, was, it seems, actuated by "spiritual influences" to dig into the western cavity of his farm, where he would find an ossuary, and many other relics that would repay him for his trouble. He immediately set to work, and after proceeding downward through nine feet of soft loam, said that he came to the limestone which underlies all that portion of the State. Here, however, he encountered no resistance, and soon found that he was really in a spot which had been previously excavated. There was a regular limestone wall, almost perfectly square, on all sides, the interior being filled with soft earth and decayed leaves. At a depth of twelve feet he came upon a layer of bones, and further down he reached various other reliquiæ, which indicated the presence of human beings at some remote period. These consisted of arrow heads and heavy implements sharpened at the edges. The farmer and his hired men continued to excavate to the depth of twenty feet, when the workmen struck solid rock, but found a passage fifteen feet high and nearly four feet wide, running in a northeasterly direction. There is no speculation as to where this curious hole leads to, and many are the suppositions relating to it. The pit has been visited by large crowds, and Rockford has quite a sensation to talk about.

Flogging Judas Iscariot.

Early in the month of April the Portuguese sailors go through with the ceremony of "flogging Judas Iscariot." The London *Times* gives an account of this year's performance of the ceremony by them in the London docks. It consists in belaboring a wooden image of the faithless apostle, roughly carved and clothed in an ordinary sailor's suit and a red worsted cap. This is first hauled into the fore-rigging, after which the sailors go to mass. On their return it is hoisted at times in windy weather on board, kicked round the deck, and lashed to the capstan, when the crew, in a high state of excitement, belabor it with knotted ropes. Every vestige of clothing is rapped off the wooden back, and then the effigy is burnt. During this process the ship bell keeps up an incessant clang, and the officers of the ship serve out grog to the men. Those not engaged in the flogging keep up a sort of rude chant intermixed with denunciations of the betrayer. The *Spectator*, commenting on the performance, says: "A more barbarous mode of commemorating the mild reproval, Judas, betrayed thou the Son of Man with a kiss?' than a ceremony the like of which Dickens invented to express the preternatural malignity of his hideous dwarf, Quilp, can hardly be conceived. But Christianity itself assumes in different countries shapes at least as divergent as that of Dickens' brutal dwarf and that of the perfect man."

Shame! A great slave business is still carried on among the Polynesian islands by English skippers who kidnap the natives and sell them to white planters in Fiji, the men for laborers and the women for other purposes. The usual game is to send a man upon an island as a missionary.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 2, 1874.

Confirmation of Gen. Bristow.

When the Senate went into Executive session this afternoon, Mr. Sherman made a unanimous report from the Committee on Finance in favor of confirming the nomination of General Bristow for secretary of the Treasury, and the nomination was at once confirmed unanimously.

Confirmation of Judge Richardson.

A report was then made from the Judiciary Committee, recommending the confirmation of Mr. Richardson for Associate Justice of the Court of Claims. The favorable report came from but a bare majority of the committee, and Judge Edmunds, the chairman of the committee, who some days ago personally remonstrated with the President against the nomination, showed the least possible interest in its fate. Objections to Mr. Richardson were at once made by a number of Senators, and it was stated that his legal attainments were of such a poor order that it would be improper to place him on the bench. Some claimed that Mr. Richardson's legal abilities were quite respectable. There was no disposition shown to have any long talk over the matter, and those who opposed the confirmation contented themselves with calling for the ayes and noes. The vote resulted in ayes 27, nays 20. The negatives included all the Democratic Senators present, and half a dozen or more Republican Senators. Several other Republican Senators who were not committed to vote at all. It is understood that both he and General Bristow will at once assume the duties of their new positions.

The Tobacco Tax.

The frequent memorials submitted to Congress on the tobacco tax have, under the instruction of a Senate resolution, been fully considered and reported upon by the Senate Committee on Finance. On the important question of repealing the provisions of the law forbidding the sale of tobacco by the consignee to any person not a licensed dealer, the Committee say that not only would there be a material loss of revenue, but that the exemption of the producer from a tax upon sales to consignees, as a preliminary, while other manufacturers are required to pay the tax, would be a discrimination at variance with constitutional uniformity.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3, 1874.

The Youghiogheny Route.

Pending the discussion of the resolution instructing the Committee on Appropriations to report amendments to the pending River and Harbor bill, making appropriations for completing the surveys and estimates for each of the four routes reported by the Select Committee on Transportation, Senator Scott succeeded in effecting the passage of an amendment provid

THREE BOYS DROWNED

Distressing Casualty—Three Brothers, While Skiff-Riding, Run Down by a Towboat.

A most distressing accident occurred Saturday afternoon about three o'clock on the Allegheny river, a short distance above the Hand street bridge. During the morning three brothers, Andrew M. Heinz, aged nine years; William Mehrlen, aged twelve, and Charles Mehrlen, aged fourteen, hired a skiff from a boat house near the foot of Seventh street, and rowed out into the river. They spouted around in their light craft for some time, enjoying themselves as boys usually do, until they reached a point between the Hand street and railroad bridges. While they were sitting down toward the Hand street bridge, all unconscious of danger, the towboat Ja Kesley, which had been delivering a raft on the North Side, suddenly steamed out into the stream. The little fellows saw their danger and made all haste to get their little boat out of the way, but they were too late. The steamer struck their frail craft and smashed it to atoms, and the waters closed over its precious freight. The lads were thrown under the steamer, and perished before any attempt could be made to save them. The bodies of two of the lads were recovered in an hour or so after the accident, and they were laid side by side on a raft on the Allegheny side of the river to await the arrival of the Coroner. Hundreds of people viewed the bodies of the lads as they lay upon the raft, but nobody could identify them. On the arrival of Coroner McCallin, he had the bodies removed to Williams' undertaking establishment, on Fifth avenue, where they were identified. Their mother is a widow residing on Locust street, near Sixteenth in the Sixth ward. Another brother sixteen years of age survives.

Coroner McCallin impaneled a jury last evening, and examined several witnesses. William Donahoe, an old gentleman residing at No. 3 River avenue, testified as follows: From the window of his residence, and his testimony went to show that the owners of the towboat were not to blame for the accident. He states that a skiff was immediately launched from the steamer, and that the employees did everything they could under the circumstances.

After hearing the testimony of several other witnesses, the Coroner concluded to adjourn the inquest until this evening, when the employees of the steamer will be examined.

The hands of the towboat have raised $100 for the relief of the mother, who is in rather moderate circumstances. The funeral of the two bodies recovered will take place this morning at ten o'clock from the Asbury chapel, Fifth avenue.

COURT CALENDAR.

List of Prisoners in the County Jail Awaiting Trial—The Charges Against Them.

Following is a list of prisoners now in the County Jail awaiting trial, together with the charges against them. The June term of the Criminal Court opens to-day, when the calendar will be taken up:

Murder—Ernest Mentzer, John Callahan.

Highway Robbery—Martin Patterson, George Lewis, Andrew Johnston, James Stewart, Winfield Blackwell.

Burglary—P. Duff, Jacob Boon.

Forgery—A. G. Evansvig, John Doe, alias H. S. Allen, Peter W. Schundo.

Aggravated Assault and Battery—Michael Voegly, Peter Feigley.

Felonious Assault—Charles Jones.

Larceny—Winfield Scott (three charges), Charles Jones (two charges), Kate Maxwell (three charges), Mary Henry (three charges), William Irwin, Thomas Neal, Neal Scovlin, John Henry, William Henderson, William H. Jones, Samuel Pierce, Margaret Schwartz, Sarah Schwartz, Hugh Cassidy, Frank Marshall, Benjamin Parkins (two charges), John Thomas, Peter Wilson, John Howard, Joseph Burke, Adam Ties, J. E. Moran, William Johnston (three charges), John Crail (three charges), John Lyndall, John Morris, Etty Lazure (two charges), Martin Shay.

Assault with Intent to Kill—Patrick McGlone, Cornelius Dougherty.

Larceny by Bailee—Ross Reed.

False Pretences—J. H. Landes, Peter Hartman, Harry Buchanan.

Assault and Battery—William Smith, Morris Kane, George Hawkins, Charles Brown.

Selling Liquor on Sunday—Albert J. Baum, John Herman.

Selling Liquor without License—Albert J. Baum, John Hartman (2 charges.)

Forcibly Entry and Detainer—Wilhelmina Peters.

Safety of the Peace—Wm. Henderson, James Smith.

Desertion—Jacob C. Hook.

Witness—Elizabeth Hollingshead.

There are now one hundred and thirty-five prisoners in the jail under care of Warden Smith forty-five of whom were summarily convicted. There are twenty females in all, in jail.

PITTSBURGH NATIONAL BANKS.

Interesting Statement from the Comptroller of the Currency.

Following is an abstract of reports made to the Comptroller of the Currency, showing the condition of the national banks in the city of Pittsburgh, at the close of business on Friday, the first day of May, 1874:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	$16,704,182 89
Overdrafts	51,157 44
United States bonds to secure circulation	7,358,500 00
United States bonds to secure deposits	50,000 00
United States bonds on hand	243,300 00
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages	125,838 05
Due from redeeming and reserve agents	1,630,941 01
Due from other National banks	536,627 02
Due from State banks and bankers	214,347 28
Real estate, furniture, and fixtures	882,453 47
Current expenses	134,430 67
Premiums paid	39,104 54
Checks and other cash items	122,508 70
Exchanges for Clearing House	644,070 10
Bills of other National banks	576,130 00
Bills of State banks	329 00
Fractional currency	29,091 65
Specie	48,919 83
Legal tender notes	3,236,589 00
U. S. cert's of dep. for legal tender notes	160,000 00
Total	$32,772,990 65

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	$ 9,020,000 00
Surplus fund	3,020,092 63
Undivided profits	788,601 82
National bank notes outstanding	6,357,377 00
State bank notes outstanding	16,639 00
Dividends unpaid	57,852 25
Individual deposits	11,196,983 71
United States deposits	45,000 00
Due to National banks	1,098,917 14
Due to State banks and bankers	1,011,286 11
Notes and bills rediscounted	81,230 99
Total	$32,772,990 65

Number of banks, 16.

	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
June 3, 1874.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Gold	111½	111½	111½	111½	111½	111½
U. S. 6's, 1881	116	116	116	116	116	116
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	121½	121½	121½	121½	121½	121½
5-20's, 1865	117	117	117	117	117	117
5-20's, 1865	116	116	116	116	116	116
5-20's, 1865	117½	117½	117½	117½	117½	117½
5-20's, 1865, new	119½	119½	119½	119½	119½	119½
5-20's, 1867	120	120	120	120	120	120
5-20's, 1867, registered	116½	116½	116½			
10-40's	114½	114½	114½	114½	114½	114½
10-40's, coupons	114¾	114¾	114¾			
Currency 6's	114¾	114¾	114¾	114¾	114¾	114¾
New York Central	97½	97½	97	97	97	97
Western Union Tel	72¾	73	72¾	72¾	72¾	72¾
Pacific Mail	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾
Adams Express	105	105	105	105	105	105
Wells-Fargo Express	76	76	76	76	76	76
Northern Pacific	67	67	67	67	67	67
United States Express	67	67	67	67	67	67
New York Central	97½	97½	97	97	97	97
Erie	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Michigan Central	93	93	93	93	93	93
Michigan Southern	71¾	72	71¾	71¾	71¾	71¾
Illinois Central	93	93	93	93	93	93
Cleveland and Pittsb.	98¼	98¼	98¼	98¼	98¼	98¼
Chicago & Northw'n.	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾
Chicago & Northw'n, preferred	57¾	57¾	57¾	57¾	57¾	57¾
Rock Island	96	96	96	96	96	96
St. Paul, common	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾
Do. preferred	67	67	67	67	67	67
Wabash, common	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Fort Wayne	94	94	94	94	94	94
Ohio & Mississippi	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾
Union Pacific	26¾	26¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Chicago & Alton			101	101½		
Boston, Hart. & Erie				2¾		
Harlem	126½	126		126		
Reading	18¾	18¾	18¾	18¾	18¾	18¾
Tenn. State bonds, old	31	31				
Mo. 6's	97	97	97	97		

SELF-PROPELLING FIRE ENGINE.

Description of the New Apparatus.

The Amoskeag Manufacturing Company are about completing a new self-propelling steam fire engine, for the city of Brooklyn, which is attracting considerable attention. It is a decided improvement, when it does away with the use of horses altogether. In appearance it differs but little from the steamers now in use. It weighs nearly seven thousand pounds, and the boiler will be covered with Russian iron. The pumps, two in number, are four and one-half inches in diameter, and have an eight-inch stroke. The two steam cylinders are seven and five-eighths inches in diameter, and also have an eight-inch stroke. The engine tank will hold seventy gallons water, which will be sufficient quantity to enable the steamer to run from the City Hall in New York, to East New York and return.

The driving wheel shaft of the new steamer is lengthened sufficiently to carry a drum in a line with the rear wheel; to this wheel another large drum is attached, and the wheels are propelled by an endless chain from the driving shaft, which serves its purpose admirably. The boiler is of the ordinary upright tubular, occupies the seat usually taken up by the driver, and by turning a lever the steamer can be started and stopped instantaneously, and can be turned within its own length. The engineer's station is directly back in the rear. The apparatus can be moved over rough or even ground at a rate of speed equal to that of four horses on a level road. The engine has so arranged that the noise of escaping steam is completely deadened. The steering is on the same principle, but devoid of the new steering apparatus, is now in use in New York, and has proved a complete success.

SPECIAL DETECTIVES

Their Appointment, Duties and Compensation.

The following is one of acts passed by the Legislature:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.* That it shall be lawful for the district attorney of any county in this Commonwealth, with the approval of the court of quarter sessions of the peace of the county, whenever said court and district attorney may deem it necessary, to appoint an officer as a special detective, whose duty it shall be to assist in obtaining such evidence as shall be directed by the district attorney for the Commonwealth in all criminal cases, as the court may direct.

SEC. 2. Such detective officer shall have all the power of a duly qualified constable, and shall hold his appointment during the pleasure of the court appointing him, not longer, however, than the term of the district attorney, on whose recommendation he was appointed.

SEC. 3. The said detective officer shall receive for his services such compensation as shall be approved by the court appointing him. This court shall order warrants for such compensation to be drawn by the clerk of the court on the county treasurer, who shall pay the same.

Registration—Duties of Election Assessors.

The County Commissioners are of the opinion that the work of registering voters should commence next week. A registry list must be completed so as to be returned to the commissioners' office by the 1st of August. These registry lists will contain the names on the registry list furnished by the assessors, together with the last preceding assessment. These assessors' lists are to take the transcripts and prepare the corrected registry list for the use of the next election. Under the new Constitution and the election law supplementary to it, there seems to be some misapprehension in regard to the duties of election assessors. Under the old law it was plain enough, but under the new law provision that in addition to the regular ward and township assessors there shall be an additional assessor for each election district or precinct, whose duty it shall be to make up the registry list of voters, and also attend at the polls of their district on election day. In the last election in the cities some precincts or districts elected the regular assessors and others did not. Those districts who neglected to elect did so under the apprehension that it was not necessary to do so until the term of the old assessor had expired. All assessors who are in doubt as to their duty should call on the County Commissioners this week; until they will be instructed as to the proper mode of procedure.

An Editor's Family in Luck.

The Philadelphia *Sunday Times* says that family of the late J. Heron Foster, of this city, have come into unexpected possession of large estates. It seems that Mr. Foster, in the early days of the California gold fever, purchased some land in that region, and, editor like, forgot all about it. Mrs. Foster being of a frugal turn of mind, visited California and succeeded in finding the title of her children clear to the handsome sum of half a million of dollars. But this is not all. The two young ladies have also become heirs to an estate in England valued at one hundred thousand dollars, with sundry castles, jewels, and so forth thrown in. One, it seems, has decided literary abilities, and when asked what she intended to do with so much money, replied that "when of age she intended to buy a newspaper."

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 3, 1874.

Money in the local market is in fair demand to-day, but this is largely owing to the pressure of outside borrowers, who, finding their local banks drained, have come to this city for accommodation. Lenders, other than bankers, are suspicious of commercial paper and give more attention to more permanent forms of investment, such as mortgages and local bonds. Of the latter, there are not many offering, as the city is not selling Water bonds and Street Improvement bonds are rather scarce.

We, however, notice advertised in our columns, bonds of the borough of Verona, which is a thriving corporation adjoining the city, and having almost identical interests. The valuation of the borough for taxation is $1,600,000, and its total debt is but $16,000; the character of the property of the place, and of the citizens, is such as to guarantee the faithful performance of any contract undertaken. In the yearly appropriations there is $1,695 set aside as a contingent fund, to meet the principal of these bonds when they mature.

A tax of one mill is levied on all property taxable for State and county purposes, for the use of the borough to meet the interest on this loan. This proceeds of this levy will yield $1,600, which is considerably more than is necessary.

The bonds are issued under an act of Assembly and an ordinance of the borough duly approved. They have twenty years to run and bear eight per cent. interest free from all taxes. The St. Clair Banking Company are offering these bonds at par and accrued interest. As the Legislature has declined to authorize any new issues of eight per cent. bonds, there will probably be no more such bonds to be offered on this market.

AFTER the failure of Jay Cooke & Co., it became necessary for the trustee in bankruptcy to sell the stocks belonging to the members of that firm. Among these stocks was a sufficient amount of the share capital of the National Life Insurance Company of the United States to control the company. When a sale of these stocks was made the National Life Insurance Company stock was purchased by parties in Chicago, identified with the Republic Life of that city. There has been a good deal of gossip about this transaction but it all resolves itself into that a certain large block of stock of the National had to be sold and was purchased by parties living in Chicago, who are also stock holders of another Life Company. The condition of the assets of the National are the same prior to the sale, as they were the title to the stock only having changed. As there are many policy holders in this section of the State it is only paper that we should give them as reliable information as we are obliged to get on the subject.

It is probable that the business of the Republic will be merged in that of the National.

A life insurance is based on the average of mortality, the greater number of lives insured the nearer does the company come to realizing the results of its calculations. The consolidation of these two great life companies gives 20,000 insured lives for the operation of the law of mortality.

The pledge of the capital stock of an insurance is a guarantee of good faith and careful management on the part of its officers, and a margin to meet any variations in the anticipated rates of mortality. In a mutual company the policy holders themselves furnish this margin out of their own pockets hoping to have it returned at some time in the shape of dividends, in a stock company the stockholders furnish this margin. In this view of the purpose of capital in a life company, the new organization stands the foremost of the life insurance companies of this country.

By the consolidation of the two companies there will be a large saving in expenses. The combined expenses of the companies before the consolidation were $836,586, per annum—these were expenses other than taxes, medical examinations which are properly chargeable to the conduct of the business, which sum includes, and is chiefly made up of, salaries, rents, advertising, expenses of establishing and maintaining agencies, etc. Most of these are of such a nature that the consolidation of the companies will stop them entirely. The remainder will be reduced fully one-half. If we say, then, that the reduction will be, in the aggregate, 66⅔ per cent., we have an annual saving of $418,000, which upon the present business will be perpetual. This is an annuity, the present value of only a ten years' purchase of which, at 6 per cent., is $1,250,950. If there is in this reduction of expenses any indication of insecurity, we fail to see it.

After carefully going over the whole ground, we think that the policy holders of both of the companies will find that the union of these two companies will be fruitful of good results to all concerned.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, June 4, 1874.

REMARKS.—By adding the arrivals of stock last night and this morning, the yards were well filled, though much of it would be shipped through to the East after rest, feed and water. The market opened this morning with a better feeling, though the Philadelphians still demand concessions on cattle, and threaten to go away empty handed unless their demands are complied with. They ask holders to drop 25c per cwt., which they say they cannot do and come out whole. It is barely possible that some understanding will be reached by noon, when matters will be more brisk.

ARRIVALS OF STOCK.

The receipts of cattle, hogs and sheep for the week ending Wednesday evening, June 3, were as follows:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Thursday	1,021	5,250	500
Friday	2,210	10,850	200
Saturday	700	175	500
Sunday	1,545	15,750	500
Monday	1,250	3,907	1,100
Tuesday	1,500	6,567	4,800
Wednesday	707	962	5,000
Total this week	8,075	42,261	12,800
Total last week	6,960	38,725	14,000
Increase	1,115	3,536	
Decrease			1,200

The receipts of cattle for the week ending Wednesday, June 3, with the prices paid and weights, are as follows:

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
32	1,250	$6 00	25	1,050	$5 75
32	1,150	6 00	15	1,050	5 75
19	1,200

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1874.

MR. WM. FRUIT is running for office in Mercer county. This is said to be a good year for fruit.

THE United States Senate, last week, cast 19 votes, out of 46, in favor of Woman Suffrage in the Territories—all of them Republicans. The world moves.

THE reported death of Mr. SHUMAN, of Lancaster, a member of the last Legislature, who was lately shot by a drunken young ruffian, turns out to be untrue. He is recovering from his wounds.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette* complains that one of the streets of that city is obstructed by an immense pile of bricks. If the obstruction consisted of crusading women, the police would remove it promptly.

IT IS generally understood that the notorious "TOM. COLLINS" has been offered a place on the staff of the New York *Sun*, judging from his exploits here, he will find fitting employment on that sheet.

THE authorities of nearly all the leading cities of the country are moving in the matter of cleaning up their streets and alleys before the advent of hot weather. No reference to our own city is intended, however.

THE Louisville *Ledger*, Democratic, desires it to be thoroughly understood that "no Radical shall hold office under the laws of Kentucky." They manage these things differently in Washington, whenever there is a Cabinet position to bestow.

A LITERARY lady, writing from Spain concerning affairs in that country, has come to the conclusion that most of the Bourbons "are bothered by conscience." Very few of their brethren on this side of the water are worried in the same way.

THE exports from the port of New York for the past week amounted to $5,376,034, against $5,205,204 for the corresponding week of 1873. The total exports since the first of January foot up $112,680,862, against $111,328,686 for the corresponding period of last year.

A DAYTON paper speaks of Connecticut as having sent "WESTON" to the United States Senate, and a Chicago paper gives a quarter of a column of denunciation to Assistant Secretary "SANBORN" of the Treasury. The prohibitory law is not in force in either city.

THE United States Circuit Court of New York has just rendered a decision affirming the important principle that if an agent of the government, through mistake, redeems counterfeit obligations of the government, the right to recover back the amount so paid accrues to the government.

THE reporter of the New York *Herald* who reported the details of the SARTORIS marriage without being present, is engaged to interview ROCHEFORT. The reporter cannot speak French, and ROCHEFORT cannot speak English; but the report of the interview will appear, all the same, and be very circumstantial in all its details.

ONE of the speakers on the Civil Rights bill, during its discussion in the Senate, was Senator COOPER, of Tennessee. If was his first speech for over a year, and, for his own sake, it is to be hoped it may be the last for the next three. There are some men whom no one would ever discover to be fools, so long as they held their peace.

THERE is a probability that the grave in which rest the remains of CALHOUN, the great apostle of Southern nullification, may presently become the property of some Northern speculator. He was buried in a church in Charleston, South Carolina, which is about to be sold for taxes, the congregation claiming to be too poor to pay them.

THE certainty of the adjournment of Congress on the 22d of June appears to have given a feeling of considerable relief to the country. Probably if it had been known three months ago that Congress would adjourn finally in June, without legislating on the financial question, the spring business would have taken on much greater activity than it has done.

THE St. Paul *Pioneer*, hitherto an orthodox Democratic journal, having passed into the hands of the late editor of the Republican Chicago *Post*, it is announced that the paper will hereafter be "independent." That is to say, it degenerates into a mere journalistic hybrid, retaining the faults of both but possessing the virtues of neither of the two great political organizations of the country.

THE lying Washington correspondent of the Detroit *Free Press*, who, some time ago, hatched the slander that Senator CHANDLER had been taken, roaring drunk, from the Senate Chamber into an anteroom by Senator SHERMAN, has fled from the capital to escape the threatened consequences of his libelous traduction. So much for the courage of "independent" calumniators.

THE House of Representatives has repealed the law under which the SANBORN contracts were made, which is all right, but has not censured the Congress which passed it. If, as is contemplated, it shall attempt to censure the officers who enforced the law just now repealed, without censuring those who made the law, the result will be but an additional example of how easy it is to be partial and one-sided.

A NEW YORK paper refers to what it calls "an eminently practical suggestion," concerning spring floods in rivers or dams, namely, to plant cannon at important points, and in case of any breach in a dam, or heavy freshet in a river, to fire the cannon as a danger signal to the people along the stream. But suppose the cannon should go off with the dam or freshet? It would then be a signal failure.

AN UNUSUALLY important meeting of Southern cotton exchanges takes place in Augusta, Georgia, within a few days. It is expected that representatives will be present from every important market south of the Potomac. The questions to come up for discussion and determination will be the bringing up to a great extent of the present existing relations with New York and the shipment of cotton in future direct to Europe.

IN ADDITION to the good news that TIPTON, of Nebraska, is to be dropped out of the United States Senate, the pleasant intelligence comes that ROCHEFORT does not intend to remain in this country. He will stay a few days in New York—long enough for the Communists to make fools of themselves and of him—and then depart straightway for Switzerland. It is to be regretted, however, that he cannot, under the circumstances, take passage in one of the French line of steamers.

WE PUBLISH, to-day, Senator MORTON'S plan for electing a President. It differs from the present plan only in giving the electoral vote of a State for President by Congressional districts, instead of by States. It abolishes the cumbrous machinery of electors, but retains the idea of giving one vote for each Congressman, and two votes for the State at large. In its general features it is but a return to the single district electoral system which prevailed in the early part of this century, and which was abandoned as unsatisfactory.

THROUGHOUT the State, we observe, the Democratic press has again become exceedingly enamored of the temperance politicians, urging them by all means to nominate straight tickets for the ensuing campaign, and invoking for them all kinds of good fortune. These papers know well enough that the normal political affiliations of the great body of temperance advocates are with the Republican party, and hence their resort to the plan, "Divide and conquer." But the trick is too palpable.

A CHICAGO paper declares that "Cæsarism is no myth" and that President GRANT is as assured in his own mind of another term as though the third inaugural oath had been taken. Did our contemporary never hear the old adage of the slip 'twixt the cup and the lip? There is something else beside "Cæsarism" that is no myth—and that paper seems entirely to forget in its proposition the important factor of the people. Combinations of intriguing politicians are easy; but it is by no means an easy matter to make the open dealing masses a party to conspiracies of any character whatever. It isn't safe to reckon without your host.

TIBURCIO VASQUEZ.

IN TIBURCIO VASQUEZ, lately arrested and at present waiting for trial in San Francisco, California possesses a rascal whose flagitious eminence is such as to invest him with exceptional interest. The theory, according to which the interest awakened in great multitudes by the career of a scoundrel like VASQUEZ, is a mere indication of human depravity, is not quite satisfactory. Great criminals, criminals of even brilliant atrocity, are common enough; they are seized and punished without inspiring in the general public any other sentiment than horror for their deeds or gratification that justice has at length overtaken them. Most of them become known in one simple, dreadful character, that of the perpetrator of crime. Of their lives, whether while passed in comparative innocence, or after becoming involved in evil ways, nothing is for the most part known which might slightly relieve or mitigate the horrible or disgusting images associated with their names by the deeds which call for condign punishment. People in general have neither leisure nor inclination to consider, even if it were possible to learn the antecedents of a criminal, what style of character he displayed in his career, what was the motive of his crime, or what temptations he resisted before at last yielding to the fatal impulse. Of the conflict between good and evil in the case, generally nothing is known but the issue; even the ordinary adventures and hazards of a life of crime often, for several reasons, as interesting in narrative to the virtuous as to the vicious, enlist no interest for the wretch who is known only by his offense against society. To a sentimental scoundrel, the fact might seem one of the chief miseries of the scoundrelly life. VASQUEZ has been more fortunate.

For several years the name of VASQUEZ has been familiar as a household word in the talk of all Californians, indeed of all, whether Americans or Mexicans, who live in the countries bordering on the Pacific. His career as a criminal seems to be almost, if not quite, unique on this side of the Atlantic, and to find its parallel one must go to Italy or Spain. He is believed to be of pure Spanish descent, and was born about thirty-five years ago in the county of Monterey. Appropriately enough, his parents, though poor, were not respectable, and took little care of his youth. However, VASQUEZ must have enjoyed some early advantages in the way of education, as he is able to read and write both Spanish and English. But while still a boy, he was a wanderer, that is, a vagabundo, in Spanish parlance, known in several neighboring counties, and he soon gained the reputation of a horse-thief. In 1857, in Los Angeles, he was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years, for the crime of grand larceny. Having escaped from prison, he fled to San Francisco, where, in 1859, he was again arrested and apparently served out his sentence. At any rate, he was at large in 1863, when, having formed the acquaintance of a noted robber named TOMASCO RODUNDO, alias PROCOPIO, they combined their talents and resources, formed a band of robbers regularly organized, of which VASQUEZ became the chief, with PROCOPIO as his lieutenant. A considerable number of robberies and one murder were committed by the band in rapid succession until the country became too hot for the leaders, when they found temporary refuge in Mexico. But they soon returned to San Francisco, when PROCOPIO was seized and confined in the penitentiary, where he at present stays. VASQUEZ fled to the mountains, was speedily arrested for robbery, and sentenced to the penitentiary.

In June, 1870, VASQUEZ, again at large, organized the band with which he has waged systematic warfare on society ever since. California is probably the only part of the United States whose geographical and social conditions are such as to enable bandits thus to defy the police during so long a time. To VASQUEZ and his companions plunder from whatever source was welcome. Having robbed a stage-coach one day, they would break into and plunder a dwelling house the next day. They were sharply pursued, too; in fact, early in the career of the band, one of its most efficient members, BARZELLAS was shot by a sheriff, and another, RODRIGUES was arrested and thrown into prison where he soon died. VASQUEZ, however, was the leading spirit of the band, and in spite of losses, continued his depredations with increasing energy and success until the last. It was in the robbing of stage-coaches that he made the most dazzling displays of his peculiar ingenuity and audacity. Two or three of his performances in that department may in boldness of design and in vigor of execution fairly challenge comparison with the most memorable achievements of the kind recorded in the Newgate calendar or even in the less veracious pages of HARRISON AINSWORTH. The rascal appears to have a tincture of humor in his flagitious constitution; it is certain that he occasionally condescended to enliven the arid details of robbery with the interlude or accompaniment of a practical joke. Thus having stripped the passengers of one coach of all their valuable portable property, he placed them conspicuous on a hill overlooking the scene, with orders to remain there quiet until further notice. When the next coach came up, the travellers seeing men watching them from the height, naturally took them for robbers on guard, and cheerfully permitted VASQUEZ and one or two confederates to appropriate their watches, purses and pocket-books.

He is, however, a cruel monster, capable of any atrocity. In one of his robberies he is known to have shot, in cold blood, four persons with his own hand, and he never allowed a human life to stand between him and his purpose. The sympathy with which the rascal is said to be regarded by some respectable people, especially by some decent women in San Francisco, is therefore only another example of human perversity; unless, indeed, the so-called sympathy is merely the manifestation of Christian compassion called forth by the presence of a ruined man, who in a career of evil has proved his possession of talents and energy which, rightly used, might have made him a benefactor to millions of his kind.

WITCHCRAFT.

Perhaps one ought to be rather surprised at the surprise with which many foreigners have heard of the recent trial and burning of witches in Mexico. The thing seems very natural, quite in harmony with other late Mexican doings which caused surprise in those only who knew little about the extremely ignorant and fanatical population of some portions of our sister republic. The people of Yuriculeo were, a few weeks ago, tortured and killed Missionary STEVENS and then mutilated his remains, do not every day demand the execution of a witch, the simple and sufficient reason is that nobody is suspected by them of playing or of wishing to play the part. Want of opportunity, not want of motive saves them from the folly. Unfortunately for the people of Jacobo, in the State of Sinaloa they were convinced that they had witches among them, and they forthwith proceeded to deal with them as ignorance and superstition only. But unlike the wretched enthusiasts of Ahualulco who in putting poor STEVENS to death acted as rioters and violated well known laws, the people of Jacobo performed their duty in the most regular and lawful manner, and their proceedings have been officially reported to the central government by the *alcalde* of the town, Senor CASTILLA, in what is, we suppose, entirely unexceptionable legal phraseology.

The naked facts without details are that JOSE MARIA BONILLA and his wife, DIEGA, were, on the 4th of April, arrested, condemned and burnt alive as sorcerers. They were proved to have cast a spell over a certain SILVESTRE ZACARIAS. There was no doubt about their guilt, says the alcalde. As a final test and to make assurance doubly sure, the person bewitched was made to swallow three mouthfuls of holy water, whereupon he vomited up fragments of a bed-quilt and bunches of hair. Then, "the people, righteously exasperated against the sorcerers, demanded that they should be burnt alive," a punishment which "seemed to the alcalde just and equitable," and which was at once inflicted. In the conclusion of his report, the alcalde declares that he has his eye on many many other sorcerers in his jurisdiction by whom divers citizens have suffered injury; a threat which has since been made good by the burning of an old woman and her son, at the instigation of the people of Jacobo.

It is gratifying to learn that the Mexican government has resolved thoroughly to investigate the subject of these atrocious executions. There, is, however, no reason to anticipate that the investigation will effect any immediate result of much value. It may be doubted whether even the severe punishment of the alcalde or the people would prevent the repetition of the offense. But the present government of Mexico has given good evidence of its interest in the cause of popular education, and such proceedings as those in the State of Sinaloa are well adopted to stimulate its zeal. The Indian and semi-Indian populations most urgently need enlightenment, as their ignorance and superstition render them a constant source of peril to the peace and order of the country. It is among them that President LERDO, besides establishing schools, has proposed to place military colonies as agencies for watching as well as for training them in the duties of good citizens.

Some American papers, when referring to the recent witch-burning cases, have taken occasion to make amiable allusion to similar affairs in Massachusetts, two hundred years ago. It is, no doubt, a good while since a witch was burnt in the United States, and we may, with some confidence believe that such a crime is impossible at present even in the least enlightened sections of the country. It is, however, hard to tell. There are some very ignorant populations in the United States, and among an ignorant population no terrors are so terrible or irresistible as those excited by the belief that a fellow mortal, in virtue of a compact with the powers of evil, is able to direct them for the destruction or the injury of human beings and their property. It is only a little more than a hundred years since MARIA RENATA was burnt as a witch at Wurzburg in Germany. It isn't a hundred years since old women were burnt as witches at Kalisk in Poland. Witches were executed in England in the eighteenth century; two at Huntingdon in 1716—and so recently as September, 4, 1863, a poor old paralyzed Frenchman died at Castle Hedingham in Essex, in consequence of having been ducked as a wizard. It is not absolutely certain that the people who ducked the old man really believed him to be a wizard; they may merely have believed in his malignity or wish to do evil without believing in his actual powers. SALDEN in his *Table-Talk*, says: "The law against witches does not prove there be any; but it punishes the motive of those people that use such means to take away men's lives. If one should profess that by turning his hat thrice and crying Buz, he could take away a man's life (though in truth he could do no such thing) yet this were a just law made by the State, that whosoever should turn his hat thrice and cry Buz, with an intention to take away a man's life, shall be put to death."

On the principle thus expounded, people might easily be punished for witchcraft in this country. Happily a milder punishment than death would probably be sufficient.

A LEAGUE OF PEACE.

Though our English price has lately married a daughter of the CZAR, and though the CZAR himself has lately visited England, where he was received with many demonstrations of joy and good will, the belief seems to be still prevalent among intelligent English people that real, abiding friendship between Russia and Great Britain is impossible. It would be easy to mention several signs of the prevalence of this belief. One of these signs may or may not be an article which appeared in the last number of the *Fortnightly Review*, and which has been read far and wide with the liveliest interest. The purpose of the article is to advocate and recommend as a part of English foreign policy the establishment of a League of Peace. The following is an outline of the argument: Russia, says the writer, is much more powerful now in comparison with England than it was at the time of the Crimean war. But England has no longer France as an ally, and, as what used to be called the balance of power in Europe has been destroyed, England, in case of quarrel with Russia, could not count upon the co-operation of other nations in the interest of the old equilibrium. Since if England had to defend Constantinople against the Russians, she would have to do it alone.

Again, if Russia should resolve to extend her boundaries she would overflow on all sides. Having the material aid of Germany and the moral support of the United States, Russia would at the same time threaten Turkey and India. England, though having an empire on which the sun never sets, could not resist a combined attack of Russia, Germany and America. As to the reality of the peril the *Review* writer seems to entertain little doubt, as he does not think it a creditable hypothesis that Prince BISMARCK and Prince GORTSCHAKOFF would spend many years in organizing such vast armies and in gathering such vast quantities of warlike munitions as Germany and Russia will soon possess, without intending to use them for some specific end. In consideration of the impending danger, the question is what course England should adopt? and the answer is that she should place herself at the head of a League of Peace, comprehending Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and the countries of Scandinavia.

As to the possibility of forming such a league or coalition for mutual defense and to maintain peace, the writer boasts about its freedom; and if it is not at liberty to originate legislation, let it abandon all responsibility in the matter, and throw the burden of framing laws upon the Executive. We shall then have a monarchical government in all but the name.

When Gen. GRANT was first inducted into office he declared that he had, and would have, no policy to enforce other than the will of the people. He seems to have got over that, and now he *has* a policy to enforce, and one that is directly at war with the will of the people as expressed by Congress.

If this issue of vetoes in advance is a part of the policy, which several newspapers have lately pointed out, to secure the President's re-election for a third term as the candidate of the South and the Democratic party, we can easily understand it; on any other hypothesis it is inexplicable.

SOME of the resolutions adopted by the National Convention of "Dunkards," or "Brethren," as they modestly style themselves, now in session at Girard, Ill., are quite startling in their novelty. For instance, the Convention has decided that it is improper for members of the society to engage in banking operations, upon the ground that the funds invested would not be under their control, and that in case parties to whom they should make loans should fail to meet their indebtedness, it would be collected from them by process of law, and might therefore be the means of depriving the widow and orphan of homes, which is contrary to their belief; that banks often loan money at high rates of interest, which has a tendency to make them covetous, and to lead them into temptation; and that the brotherhood should keep their property under their own control, so that they can use it for the good of mankind. They are permitted to loan money at the legal rates of interest in the several States, but never to take a greater per cent. Really, the extraordinary simplicity of these doctrines and practices almost carries one back to the primitive days of the wondrous Sermon on the Mount. How very unfashionable!

A PHILADELPHIA paper states that General HOWARD has been compelled to expend more than five thousand dollars for attorney's fees and other expenses, in defending himself from the charges recently brought against him, and that to repay this money he is about to sell his house and furniture, the only property that he has in the world. We suggest that FERNANDO WOOD and those others of his kidney who, in and out of Congress, were leagued with him in the persecution of this brave and faithful officer, whose chief crime in their eyes was that he had been crippled in defense of the imperiled liberties of his country—should now club together for the purpose of defraying these costs. If it be answered that such a course would be a virtual acknowledgement of their own baseness, the sufficient rejoinder is, so much the more creditable to their awakened consciences.

AN INDICATION of progress is reported from South America. In the Congress of Colombia in session at Bogota, Senator AUGUSTINE ARIAS, of Panama, irritated by the language of a colleague, Senator General CORREOSO, also of Panama, struck him on the head with an umbrella. The next day General CORREOSO challenged Senator ARIAS to fight a duel, but Senator ARIAS, by that time right sorry for what he had done, made the most ample apologies, and the two Senators were speedily reconciled. Much amusement in political circles has been derived from the little difficulty, and even in Bogota the peaceful termination of what threatened to be a sanguinary feud is understood as a sign of improved social tone.

THE immigration from Europe this year is likely to lead to new labor complications. Among the immigrants landing at New York are large numbers of Italians, who are ready to get to work at much lower rates than other laborers are willing to take, and now, whenever a strike occurs in that city, the places of the strikers are filled almost instantly by Italians. The streets, too, are cleaned by them, much to the disgust of the other foreigners who have had a monopoly of that kind of work, and altogether it would seem as if the Italians were likely to furnish an acceptable substitute for the Coolies and the Chinese, who have not been successful as cheap laborers. New York, it is said, is already swarming with Italians, and every foreign arrival of vessels adds to their number.

THERE are forty thousand persons in Louisiana rendered homeless and destitute by the late floods, ten thousand in Arkansas, and ten thousand in Mississippi, and supplies will be necessary until August or September, when the corn can be harvested. The present relief fund will be exhausted in less than two weeks, when sixty thousand of our kindred—bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh—will be absolutely perishing for want of food. And yet, notwithstanding the imminence of the terrible emergency, Pittsburgh looks on, with its hands in its pockets, almost as stolidly as if its sensibilities had been seared with a red-hot iron. It is a pitiable and humiliating spectacle—nor is there any reason why words should be minced in saying so.

THE New York *Tribune* within a day or two has announced the name of Hon. ROBERT W. MACKEY as a candidate for the United States Senatorship in place of Hon. JOHN SCOTT, whose successor is to be elected by the next Legislature. As the *Tribune* is not in Mr. MACKEY'S confidence, in any way, its authority to speak for him or use his name may well be questioned. We do not know as much of that gentleman's mind as the *Tribune* is likely to know, and if he is a candidate for that or any other place, at this time, we are not aware of it. He has just entered upon his term as State Treasurer, to which he was last year chosen by the people, and is sufficiently contented with that mark of public approbation to entertain no other aspirations.

THE forthcoming number of POOR'S annual statement of the condition and earnings of all the railways in the United States will be issued in a few days. Instead of showing, as was commonly thought would be the case, a decrease of earnings for the year 1873 as one of the results of the panic, it will show that the total earnings for 1873 were about $50,000,000 in excess of any previous year, the increase being mainly on Eastern roads, as for instance: $10,000,000, in New York roads, $15,000,000 in Pennsylvania roads, $5,000,000 in New Jersey roads, and $2,500,000 in New England roads. The remainder is distributed among the roads in the South and West.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The island of Mackinac, in Lake Michigan, is to be set apart as a national park.

The export of cotton out of the American crop of 1873-4 will amount to 2,925,000 bales.

This month the United States Treasury will disburse nearly eight millions of dollars on account of pensions.

The National Conference of Dunkards has, on considerable *forte*, declared against "the musical piano."

The Buffalo *Express* should discontinue its issue of "small packages." They are worse than the saw-dust swindle.

And now we are welcoming June—the blossom month—the month for the country, beyond all the rest, save October.

The Southern Methodists are the first to say that no member of their Church shall make, sell or drink liquors as a beverage.

A French paper affirms that one Jean Cousin discovered America four years before Columbus arrived here. It is trying to cozen us.

The imperative necessity of providing better dwellings, if the moral condition of the poor is to be raised, is attracting serious attention in England.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* says that all classes of people in that city have their trials except those who violate the liquor laws. So have they here.

Thank you; but we don't want any reciprocity treaty, of which the Canadians are to have the benefit while the people of the United States perform the reciprocity.

The Louisville *Ledger* says: "Pittsburgh is making a distinguished record for deeds of noble daring in arresting praying women." N. B. This is "sarkasum."

It was a cheap sort of virtue shown by Congress in passing the bill for the reduction of the army, against the remonstrance of General Sherman and the Secretary of War.

Recently a Texas farmer, while digging for clay in a gopher hill, found $100,000 in Spanish doubloons, and now nearly all the Texas youth are digging holes in search of gold.

It is said that all the liquors left in Sumner's cellar are one bottle of cognac and one bottle of California brandy. Somebody has evidently had the keys since the Senator's death.

Lovers of strawberries—and who does not love them?—will be rejoiced to know that the prospects of an abundant crop of this delicious berry are exceedingly good this year.

Good: because bad for the lobby. No cards will hereafter be sent in to Senators during a session unless the card bears the autograph signature of the Senator to whom it is sent.

The steward of Vassar College is said to get twenty per cent. of brain-power phosphate into the daily bread he serves up. Perkins of the Cincinnati *Times* ought to board with him.

A cowardly trick. The opponents of the Civil Rights bill have started a report that the colored race contemplate besieging the fashionable watering places this summer in large numbers.

It is rumored that Rochefort has been offered a position on the New York *Sun*. We doubt it. He is sufficiently reckless to suit Dana, unquestionably; but hardly enough of a snake.

This, from the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, has an uncommonly pungent flavor of satire: "Raphael Semmes is again a voter. Yet the Geneva award remains undisturbed."

New Mexico is in too much haste. She does not need a State government, and the country can get along very well without the two Senators and Representative she would send to Congress.

Boston thinks that the religious wants of its English sparrows have been sufficiently attended to, and is going to drop the "meeting-house" pattern of bird-houses which has hitherto prevailed.

The attempt to keep open the New York Mercantile Library Association and the Brooklyn Institute on Sunday, has failed. Not quite one per cent. of those privileged to use the rooms visited them.

Music in the 'air. A Brooklyn bride the other day received a pair of ivory hair brushes, in the covers of which were musical boxes. Possibly the brushes won't work on false braids, however.

The Grangers will have a candidate for the Presidency. He is already foreshadowed in Nesmith, a professional politician, and a man caring as little for the real interests of the farmers as Ben. Butler.

Henry Ward Beecher recommends, as a temperance measure, the appointment in every city of "an unimpeachable inspector of all brewages offered for sale, and the inexorable condemnation of the deleterious."

It is so seldom that our street-cleaning officials try to do anything to serve the public, that they are deserving of encouragement and assistance whenever they make the attempt. We are waiting for them to begin.

Andy Johnson, the man of vetoes and swayer of circles of political preferment, is more than ever desirous of a seat in the United States Senate, and is leaving no oratorical stone unturned to secure the darling object of his ambition.

THE Philadelphia *Ledger* gives the particulars of an important bill recently introduced into the United States Senate, looking to the improvement of the Susquehanna river. It provides for a survey of the Susquehanna river from Chesapeake Bay to the New York State line, and thence through Seneca Lake, across the Erie Canal, to Lake Ontario. The object is to ascertain the practicability of steamboat navigation by this route from Lake Ontario to the Chesapeake, by means of dams, locks and canals. Should such a survey demonstrate the practicability of improving the navigation of the Susquehanna, so as to make it available, it cannot fail to be of great advantage to this State.

FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

How to Spend the Summer—Country Life—All About Summer Toilettes.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

NEW YORK, June 1, 1874.

Summer departures commenced weeks ago with those not always happy persons who have summer residences in the country and who have to leave New York when the early pens and asparagus are coming in, when strawberries are plentiful at a dollar a box, and young lamb at a dollar a pound; when spring fashions make their appearance in church and on the promenade, and window-boxes bloom out in all the glory of fully developed hyacinths, flame-tinted begonias, creeping ivy, and promising, but late, performing gladiolas. It is all very well if one has a beach house, and a conservatory, and a skilful gardener, and a good cook, and well trained maids, and "going to the country" means simply giving a few directions as to care in packing, and the transfer from a palace of delights to a garden of beauty and content.

But there are very few to whom it means this, and the majority even of those who could very well afford country baronial style prefer a less imposing but less responsible home in town and freedom to wander at will through country scenes abroad or at home, or participation in the gay life of fashionable crowds at the watering places.

The exodus to Europe is not so great as last year and consists so far mainly of those whose business as well as pleasure attract them to the European Capitals. It is argued from this that our own great American resorts will find this a thriving season but this there is room to doubt. Business is depressed, prices have lowered, there is a feeling of insecurity and want of confidence unfavorable to liberal outlay and the short season in conjunction with the enormous expenditures renders profit under any auspices extremely doubtful. A method of lengthening the season which would be advantageous to all parties concerned in our climate would be to extend it into the fall and offer the inducement of reduced rates through September and October. The autumn months are by far the most delightful parts of the year in the country. The season in town every year commences later, and it is not probable that we shall have Italian opera again before November, if having been discovered that opera audiences assemble until they are ready to put on their new clothes and kid gloves for the winter campaign. There is nothing to prevent thousands of city residents from enjoying the golden ending of summer in the midst of its fullest radiance, and strengthen their forces for social conflict in the bracing atmosphere of the upper lakes, Saratoga, Niagara, or the woods of the Adirondacks, rather than the stifling air of city hotels and boarding houses.

NOTABLE EVENTS.

Some notable events, including events that have either taken place or are on the *tapis*, have produced quite an unusual stir in society at this season, for May was formerly considered an unlucky month for marriages, and is not now a favorite one, and been the motive for several quite novel and very elegant entertainments.

At a luncheon party recently given to the bridegroom of the bride's daughter, previous to his marriage, the table was decorated by an artist whose business it is to attend to this department alone. Cakes in fanciful ture composed of glass were filled with fruits, embedded in their own flowers and foliage. Straw berries, lemons, Fejoa apples, and even pine-apples were treated in this way; and over all were suspended flying white doves upon golden wires bent to the form of birds in mid-flight and spread their wings as naturally as if sharing the enjoyment.

The pretty idea was illustrated in one of the evening dresses made to Christine Nilsson on one of the last nights of her appearance in New York. Above a magnificent silver and gilt vase filled with flowers, floated a small fairy, formed of a woman's figure folded under its left wing, but whether it was a diamond solitaire ring, a pendant to match the bracelet now worn, or some sewing or another horse-shoe has never been determined.

The great prima donna is said to have a passion for horse shoes, some remnant of superstition, probably, of her ancestry, and it is borne out by the number of earrings and charms which she possessed in this shape. One of her latest acquisitions was one which in silver and black enamel, made to represent oxydized silver, (but permanent, which oxydized silver is not), in the form of horseshoes, to be worn suspended from the waist. It was made by Stevens & Co., and I am informed that an immense demand has since sprung up for this novel article of jewelry, and that orders can hardly be supplied for it. It is not very expensive, and it is certainly a pretty and useful ornament, the only drawback being of unequal quality, which is not always the case with fancy watches. The same house has produced a novelty in necklaces, which consists of rows of small gold Spanish coins, of any nationality preferred. It is very odd, and some ladies are already having earrings made to match. But to return to

FLORAL GIFTS AND DECORATIONS.

It is quite impossible to tell where the fancy for natural ornamentation will stop, or in what way in the future art will be mingled with nature. Strawberries in their own trailing leaves and white blossoms may be pretty to look at, but most people prefer them massed in a dish for eating, and flanked by white sugar and cream. Dinner parties and luncheon parties very often are Barmecide feasts, but they will be more so than ever if the fruits for dessert are left upon trees, and the temptation presented to economical housekeepers of sending them back untouched to the florists or the fruiterers.

Moreover, it is beginning to be the fashion to send young ladies pots of flowers instead of baskets and bouquets. Tara Morris was presented with a magnificent camelia in full bloom on the first night of "Camille," and young ladies make no secret of preferring such heads to bed and growing plants or jardinieres for the windows to mere bouquets of perishable flowers.

HANDKERCHIEF STANDS.

A late importation from Paris is so pretty,—it forms part of the furniture of a brides handsome residence, which by the by is a marriage gift from "papa-in-law"—that I feel bound to describe it. It consists of a sort of fluted pedestal, rather Grecian in shape, at the top of which is set—like a china flower pot on a jardiniere a casket shaped box of highly scented sandal wood. Within it are six cushions of painted white satin forming the bottom, sides, and top. These are filled with *sachets d' odeur* and the box being deep enough to be admit of this a dozen pair of gloves, and as many handkherchiefs are placed within it, which when removed are just sufficiently scented to be agreeable for use.

The solid ornament is like a large ring on the top of the box the model I describe has a beautiful tropical bird, stuffed. The sides of the casket on the exterior have similar birds painted in vivid colors and a vine of gilded leaves runs down the tripod—like stems of the pedestal within which the casket stands. Fronds of fern make a set—each frond separated—in the small cup like ornaments at the vase. By being placed near the window the rich odor of the sandal wood fills the room in a few moments.

"SCABBARD" DRESSES.

It is proposed to introduce this summer a novelty into American fashion in the form of the "scabbard" dress or "sheath" dresses, an exaggeration of the "clinging" styles which are now so much in vogue. These scabbard dresses are in fact the same as those worn under the French directoire and in which to look at a woman is to seem utterly impossible that she should run and a *tour de force* that she should even walk. For these dresses are not merely narrow; they are quite too narrow for grace of motion to be possible—not only to the upper portion of the hips, but round the knees. If ever worn in their present style by our belles it will be with such modifications—if that much abused term may be used—and alterations as will make them less startling to behold. And though economical it would seem from the scantiness of the pattern, our modistes who many of them hail from Paris and London will surely make up the difference in cost in the trimmings. A dress that from neck to hem, is straight and clinging can only room for such as can be afforded by gores set in between the breadth at the bottom, and at but a quarter of a yard from the hem, slightly widening. Our modistes certainly would seem to require so disguising of its original dimensions to obtain favor with us.

Even in a true sheath dress no overskirt or draping is admissable. By draping I mean *added* draping in an independent form as it is needless to state. After the above description that the original "sheath" garment could not be draped, and with an overskirt it would no longer be a "scabbard" dress. But scarfs of unembroidered cashmere will be permitted to soften the crude *ensemble*, it *ensemble* it may be called—and also very large jet or coin necklaces reaching below row as on the Shah's neck.

With the scabbard dress will reappear a long vanished fashion, those worn abroad display the mode I allude to, embroidery above the hem.

In some of these dresses this embroidery—reappearing in a narrower design around the neck *en cottier*—reaches as to the skirt up to the knees and is of great and splendid beauty and of slightly contrasting shades.

BEADED GUIPURE OVERDRESSES.

In the notices which reach us of the playing of a new piece, the Sphinx in Paris, a great deal of attention is paid to the toilettes which are described with great minutia. One of them worn by the principal actress, Mdlle. Croizette, is described as a magic silk covered with black beaded lace, very new and startling in its effect. As these beaded guipure overdresses are among the newest things here, lady readers may be interested to know of just what they consist. One style forms an apron which is tied at the back with a sash and is accompanied by trimming and ornaments for bodice and sleeves. Another has a sleeveless jacket instead of trimming, and a third consists of a polonaise, simple but graceful in form, with apron front, close sides and sleeves finished off at the elbow with falls of beaded lace.

The fabric is all silk guipure woven instead of handmade, and dotted with single cut jet so that although it sparkles all over and presents a wonderfully brilliant appearance it is not heavy as one would suppose.

In addition to the black there are sets of yellowish white guipure dotted with white jet, which, over a faint rose or faded blue, present an even more distinguished appearance.

The same idea is carried out in grenadine, only instead of being dotted the jet embroidery forms clustered leaves and borders. This is striking, but not at all so graceful or so effective as a complete costume of plain grenadine trimmed with side ploutings of the material over which is placed an apron and jacket of beaded guipure.

BLACK GRENADINE COSTUMES.

But there are rich costumes of black grenadine which also seem to be one mass of jet. The bodies are striped *cuirasse* fashion with passementerie, or with lace beaded with jet; the aprons are trimmed row above row with beaded lace or rich silk and jet fringe. Beautiful they are exceedingly, but so peculiar and so marked that one part of the costume, including the beaded capote and lace covered must correspond with them. Its quite the mode, however, to trim the grenadine skirt with the material only, reserve the lace, heading, fringe, and the like for the tunic or polonaise.

ENGLISH BAREGE DRESSES.

A pretty and long neglected fabric has reappeared this season and makes up into pretty, simple, inexpensive dresses for the country and home wear. This is English barege and in Quaker grey or the creamy white which many matrons will remember as furnishing a costume for the days of their girlhood, is exceedingly delicate and lady-like.

They are usually made without overskirts and trimmed with the material only in narrow flat pleated flounce, headed with puffs, in sometimes a double series. The bodice is straight round the waist, what is known as the French waist, fitted with its large pockets and deep, wide cuffs, has disappeared. The best styles this year are blouse backs (narrow, without side forms) and loose fronts, which are held in with belt or sash. The skirt is long, the form simple, ample and graceful—the skirt tied back instead of being bunched up.

THE "GOSSAMER" WATER-PROOF.

This is the name given to a recent invention which consists of a plain circular cloak, with hood made of fine linen or twilled silk, and thoroughly water-proof by a preparation of oil and then liquid India rubber. The extreme lightness of these wraps justifies their name of "Gossamer," and they will form a most welcome substitute for a woolen water-proof during the hot weather. JENNIE JUNE.

The Home Field.

[From the Philadelphia North American.]

We have repeatedly commented on the immense capacity for future development afforded by such new members of the confederacy as Texas, California, Colorado, etc. We desire now to say that vast as is the opening afforded in these States, it does not exceed in capacity that presented by Pennsylvania. We have an area of 46,000 square miles, while Denmark, Holland, Belgium and Saxony, united, have but 45,000, and a population of 15,000,000. These States have no natural resources superior to ours. Indeed, if anything, the advantage is in our favor, on account of our great wealth of iron, coal, marble, slate and petroleum, and our superior facilities for agriculture.

Mere expanse of territory is nothing without the people to occupy it and give an enterprising population. We have both. We have all the essentials for a great and powerful State, and there need be no limit to our future growth save that given energies. Ours is the greatest wheat-growing State on the seaboard. It is also a great producer of wool, and its agricultural interests keep pace with its industrial progress. It excels in manufactures, as in the manufacture of metals, Pennsylvania leads the list of States. There is, then, in fact, nothing to hinder the progression here fully as much population as we have shown to be contained in Denmark, Saxony, Holland and Belgium combined. We already have in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia cities numerically surpass those in the European States named, and fast rising up into prominence and fame are other cities like Reading, Harrisburg, Erie, Scranton and Pottsville, that will in time rival the minor cities in those States.

If, then, such are the resources and such is the capacity of Pennsylvania, it stands to reason that the State only needs railroads and industrial capital to insure its proper development. Pennsylvania has been in the past lavish of her capital and enterprise for the benefit of other States, from Maine to Texas. Had she been as selfish as has been alleged, she would have applied her wealth to the development of her own internal resources, and the results would have far transcended any that is now to be. But her spirit has been as broad and generous as the domain of the Republic, and in the true enterprise of a great community she has ventured freely and boldly, far and wide, on land and sea, on continents and islands, in Russia and Brazil, in the West Indies and Colorado, in Carolina and Minnesota, in Maine and Texas.

It is now time to turn our attention to the development of our own internal resources; to multiplication of railways in Pennsylvania, and to the realization of that mighty future of which our people have so long dreamed. Whatever other States may choose to do in the way of inviting capital at the present time, and a more convenient season, it behooves Pennsylvania to spring into the opening and go ahead at once in her own improvement. She can employ profitably at home every dollar of surplus capital and every idle hand.

"WHAT bonnets